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Somerset Record Society.

VOL. XV.

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PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION
OF THE
COUNTY OF SOMERSET

DRAWN UP BY
THOMAS GERARD OF TRENT,
1633.

EDITED BY
THE REV. E. H. BATES, M.A.

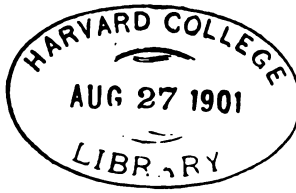
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Somerset Record Society.



REPORT.

WITH the issue of the present volume, the arrears of publication have been, as the Secretary hopes, finally overtaken. He is much obliged to the subscribers who did not desert the Society, and confined themselves to enquiries after its welfare. Nearly the whole of the material of the volume for the current year has been transcribed and transmitted to the Editor, and it will be put in hand at once.

The number of subscribers is three less than last year. Under the present circumstances perhaps a larger shrinkage might have been expected, but it follows after heavy losses in the last two lists. A report for 1900 may not omit to mention the death of Mr. John Batten, F.S.A., one of the promoters of the Society, whose knowledge of the records and history of the County was unrivalled. Mr. E. D. Bourdillon has also passed away, another original subscriber.

The financial statement presented with the Report does not represent the real state of affairs, as the large balance has to provide for the cost of Volumes XIII and XIV, and, to a certain extent, for that of Volume XV as well.

After the programme for 1901-2 had been agreed upon by the Council, Mr. C. H. Firth, who has made a special study of the Civil War period, wrote a letter pointing out the great local as well as national value of Hopton's *Narrative of the Civil War*, which is contained in the Clarendon MSS. at Oxford. The most important parts are those dealing with local events after the arrival of the Royal Forces at Wells in 1642, and another *Narrative* from the uniting of the King's forces at Chard to the taking of Bristol, June and July, 1643. Mr. C. E. H. Chadwyck-Healey having kindly undertaken the part of editor, the *Narrative* will be issued as part of the publications for 1902.

The Society's transactions now including these Civil War tracts as well as the seventeenth century Survey by Gerard, provide new material for the history of the County between the reigns of Richard I and Charles I. Before the earlier reign, the only public records not yet printed are the Pipe Rolls of Henry II after 1175. For the local historian their value consists in the genealogical data relating to the great feudal families. The cartularies still in existence of the various monastic bodies, always excepting those of Glastonbury, have now been printed. Those of some private families are still available, including Beauchamp, of Hatch, and Hill, of Spaxton. But every many-acred owner holds in his muniment room the raw material for such compilations. *Dunster and its Lords* is a notable instance of the use that can be made of the wealth of charters stowed away in many an ancient hall. The *Cartæ Antiquæ* of Lord Willoughby de Broke and the Calendar of the muniments belonging to Lord Sherborne, both recently printed, contain much of value for the early documentary history of the County. The labours of the Historical Manuscripts Commission

deal, generally speaking, with national rather than local matters.

A continuation of the Pleas and Assize Rolls for the remainder of the reign of Henry III, down to the great Quo Warranto Assize of 1278, would be a valuable continuation of Volume XI. In the fourteenth century perhaps the most useful work would be a continuation of Roberts' *Calendarium Genealogicum*, which has not been continued beyond 1307. For the fifteenth century, *The Pedes Finium*, recording, as they so often do, the final stage in the transfer of property, are indispensable. The volume of early wills to be issued this year will provide the personal element and the incidents of everyday life, which perhaps are somewhat wanting in the Records proper.

But these suggestions are only put forward to show that there is no lack of material for future volumes of the Record Society.

E. H. BATES.

SOMERSET RECORD SOCIETY.

BALANCE SHEET, 1900.

	<i>Receipts.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>	
	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Balance, 1st January, 1900	...	113 4 3	Transcription of Athelney Cartulary	...
Subscriptions for 1895 (1)	...	1 1 0	Secretary	...
" 1896 (1)	...	1 1 0		...
" 1897 (1)	...	1 1 0		...
" 1898 (1)	...	1 1 0		...
" 1899 (54)	...	56 14 0	Balance, on Deposit	...
" 1900 (62½)	...	65 11 6	Balance in Bank, 31st December,	...
" 1901 (1)	...	1 1 0	1900	...
Sale of Publications (net)	...	127 10 6		...
	...	5 17 0		...
		<u>£246 11 9</u>		<u>£246 11 9</u>
				<u>232 18 9</u>

E. H. BATES, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

12th February, 1900.

Audited and found correct,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Manager Stuckey's Bank, Ltd., Ilminster.

The Somerset Record Society.

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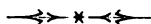
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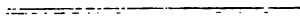
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INTRODUCTION.

THE manuscript of the Survey is contained in a folio volume, bound in vellum, and lettered 'A Corographical Description of some Counties by Norden.' The title-page sets forth the names of the shires and islands as 'Middlesex, Essex, Surrey, Sussex, Hamshire, Weighte, Garneseye, and Jarsey, performed by the traveile and veiwe of John Norden, 1595.' These descriptions take up one-third of the volume, and are written in a clear clerly hand. Then, after some blank leaves, without any title-page, is the heading 'The particular description of the County of Somerset.' The writing is different from that in the first part of the book, and is very neat. In the account of Stoke Curcy a new style of writing begins in the middle of a paragraph. From divers little slips in the heraldic portions, it is probable that neither portion is the author's autograph. The volume, which is the property of Lord Winchilsea, contains a survey of exactly one half of the county, including nearly every parish south and west of a line drawn from Castle Cary to Athelney, and thence to Stert Point.

From the absence of a title-page, the date and authorship are questions of internal evidence.

In the text are two references by which the date of the work can be exactly fixed. At Queen Camel mention is made of the bell presented by William Perry in 1633. At Ile Brewers William Walrond is stated to be 'at this present Sheriffe of y^e Countie'; and he served that office in 1632-3. It is not possible to say how long the composition of the Survey may have taken. It

THOMAS
GERARD

1633

had certainly been brought down to date, as there are references to King Charles under Taunton and Hinton St. George, and see also notes on Pendomer and elsewhere.

From many statements in the text it is evident that other portions of the county had been surveyed, and the account written out. Cannington implies the completion of the lower valley of the Parrett; Glastonbury and Esthrope (see p. 159) are in the valley of the Brue. Chewton (p. 207) is at the source of the Chew which flows into the Avon at Keynsham; and under Combe Florey a reference to Cloford shows that the Survey had reached to the sources of the Frome river. A probable reference to Charlton Musgrove on p. 162 under Stowell, and another to Farewell of Holbrooke on p. 55, would imply that the valley of the Cale had been included; in which case the whole county had been surveyed.

The authorship is revealed in the account of Trent, for the writer says 'it now gives me habitation'; and in tracing the history of the manor, he mentions Tristram Storke, who 'left four daughters his heires, married unto Compton, Seymer, Larder, and William Gerard my greate grandfather, from whom though she were the youngest sister the principall house of them is descended to myselfe.' As will be shown later on, William Gerard's great-grandson and heir was Thomas Gerard, and to his Christian name the author is evidently alluding, when writing down a strange tale concerning Odcombe, he adds, 'but this I cannot believe because I am a Thomas, and therefore hard of belief.' So the writer is shown to be Thomas Gerard of Trent.

There is also one distinct reference to his companion 'Survey of Dorsetshire.' Under Compton Pauncefoot he states, 'The family of Keynes, of which I have spoken at large in my survey of Dorset.' And under Stogumber, Clatworthy, North Perrett, and Stokegursy will be found hints of a prior survey of Dorset. At the present time there is in print a survey of this county

which tallies with Gerard's account of Somerset in every possible way. It was drawn up in the same period. It is arranged on the same plan of taking the parishes, not in the usual way by Hundreds, but by river basons. Particular stress is laid upon the importance of correctness in noting heraldry. There are the same unusual epithets and quaint expressions. There is even the same patent error in designating Godwin as Bishop of Worcester instead of Hereford. There cannot be an atom of doubt that this Survey which has so long passed under the pseudonym of John Coker must be credited to Thomas Gerard. The parallelism between the two Surveys has been treated of at length by the late Mr. J. Batten, F.S.A., in the 'Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries,' V. art. 83. This identification is not by any means the least of the services which that genuine antiquary did for the history of both counties; and deeply do I regret that herein, like a monument on a neighbouring hill, 'hoc saltem fungar inani munere.'

William Gerard 'the great-grandfather,' of a family long settled in Dorset, married, temp. Henry VIII., Mary, youngest daughter and coheire of Tristram Stork of Trent. He died January, 1567-8, leaving for his heir Thomas of Waddon in the parish of Portesham, co. Dorset. By Isabell, daughter and coheire of Leonard Willoughby of Toner's Puddle, also in Dorset, he left at his death in 1583 William, born 1552. He married Mary, daughter of Sir Christopher Allen of the Mote, co. Kent, and died on the first day of May, 1604. The Inquisition taken after his death recites that he was seised of one-third part of the manor of Trent in severalty, and of the manors of West-Waddon, Broadway, and Nottinghamne in Dorset, and that by a settlement, made in 1584 and varied in 1587, the Dorset property was settled upon his widow for her life (she survived her son, and died December 30, 1634). Further, that his heire was his son Thomas, aged eleven on the 17th of March last past, *i.e.* 1592-3.

Thomas the author is very probably the person of that name who matriculated from Gloucester Hall, Oxford, June 18, 1610, though the age is given as sixteen, and not seventeen. The next thing known about him is his marriage, which took place in 1618, with Anne, the daughter of Robert Coker of Mapowder. By the dates given on her monument in Trent church, it appears that the bride was only fourteen years of age at the time of her marriage. Of this marriage there was issue one son, who died before his father, and seven daughters, of whom five survived as coheiresses.

The mother died on June 25, 1633, and was buried at Trent two days later (Par. Reg.). Thomas Gerard died on October 13, 1634, and was also buried at Trent.

After the death of their grandmother on the 30th of December in the same year, the children would be taken charge of by their mother's family. The eldest, Elizabeth, aged twelve at her father's death, married Bullen Reymes, M.P. for Weymouth (see 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' Vols. IV., V.). The second, Anna, aged ten, married Colonel Francis Wyndham, younger son of Sir Thomas Wyndham of Kentsford in Somerset; this marriage took place in 1646. Ethelreda, the third, aged nine, married Edward Hyde of Westhatch in Wilts. Amy (or Anne), aged six, was never married. Frances, the youngest, aged four, married John Wynter of Dyrham, co. Gloucester. When Frances came of age in 1651, the property was divided by deed dated July 25, 1651; and Trent came to the second daughter Anna. Owing to the proved loyalty of her husband, the house provided a safe refuge for Charles II. after the battle of Worcester, September 3, 1651. There were born of the marriage of Anna Gerard with Francis Wyndham five sons and as many daughters. One of them, Elizabeth, married in 1672 William Harbin of Newton Surmaville near Yeovil, and from this alliance it happens that Thomas Gerard's Survey at length brought to light has been edited by a lineal

descendant, which is a coincidence, in my ancestor's phrase, 'not to be overpassed.'

Leland is the father of English antiquaries, and his work was carried on in Camden's 'Britannia,' first published in 1586. Their writings stimulated many inquirers to draw up, after the model proposed to them, surveys of their localities. Kent was so treated by John Lambarde as soon as 1576; but in the early part of the seventeenth century a number of counties were surveyed. This was probably due to John Norden, for he 'was the first Englishman who designed a complete series of County Histories' ('Dict. Nat. Biography,' XLI. 105). The first part of the volume, as described above, is a copy of his early labours in this direction. The original is in the British Museum.

Five counties, including in the West Cornwall, have been printed, but the rest have either been lost or, more likely, never completed. Before his death in 1625 Norden had been obliged to turn his attention to surveying land and similar work to earn his living; and the surveys mentioned below were probably carried out independently. The principal topographical works dealing with the West of England before the Civil War are: Richard Carew's 'Survey of Cornwall,' 1602; Risdon's 'Chorographical Survey or Description of Devon,' 1630, though not printed before 1714; Westcote's 'View of Devon,' c. 1630, printed in 1845. Sir William Pole's Collections; he died 1635; part of his papers were printed in 1791; for those still remaining in manuscript, see 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' IV. 170. Gerard's 'Survey of Dorset,' which, under the pseudonym of John Coker, was printed in 1732; and the same author's 'Survey of Somerset,' printed in 1900-1.

For some reason Gerard made practically no use of Domesday; and his history of a manor in lay hands makes a beginning with a Plea of John's reign, or an Inquisition *post mortem* of the early thirteenth century. From that period down to his own

day, the Survey will generally be found to add to Collinson in many important particulars.

Gerard had many friends among the landowners of Somerset and Dorset; and their muniment rooms were open to his researches. He was consequently able to use the Cartulary of Bruton Abbey, which is still in the possession of Sir John Strangway's representative, Lord Ilchester. Sir William Pole's collections are referred to on p. 127. The book of Bath Abbey often quoted is probably the Cartulary now preserved in the library of Lincoln's Inn. He was also able to consult the manuscripts left by Leland. They had passed into the possession of William Burton, who wrote a history of Leicestershire. By his frequent mention of this work, Gerard seems to have had more than a merely literary acquaintance with its author; and his note on the quarries near Northampton, also on the Oolite, may have been made on a journey from London to Leicester.

A reference to the index, 'Authorities used by Gerard, will show that he consulted modern works as well as the old chronicles. The latest work is Weever's 'Funereal Monuments,' published in 1631.

Though not so directly autobiographical as the writings of Aubrey, the personality of the author is clearly revealed. The phraseology and expressions employed are often humorous and quaint; and not less interesting is the use of obsolete and dialectic words. These are worth searching for. The topographical descriptions are not confined to dry details, but reproduce the scene as Gerard saw it. The pleasant and delectable walk by the waterside from Bishop's Hill to Taunton, through cherry orchards and gardens. Orchard Portman and its land full fraught with fruit trees, from whence it derives its name and the family their armorial bearings. Miry ways and stiff soil may remind us of the physical difficulties in making a survey in the days of the Stuarts. The

floods to be seen from Langport and Somerton may still be paralleled in the winter season. Though there was no historical knowledge of architecture, Gerard had an eye for a fine church and tower, and an ear for the sound of bells; while the manor houses of greater and less degree are not overlooked. Within these limits it is not easy to say what could have been added to the account of each parish, except perhaps a more inclusive catalogue of the ancient monuments in the churches.

The text is a faithful copy of the original, the additions and corrections necessary to complete the sense of a paragraph being added in square brackets. The notes are intended partly to correct such faults of position or history as lay on the surface, and partly to act as a guide to the ever-growing literature of local antiquities. To facilitate the use of the index, the principal references are printed in heavier type.

THE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION

OF THE

COUNTY OF SOMERSETT.

The farthest west limmitt of this Shire comprises a part of the Forrest of Exmore, which hence extends it selfe farre into Devon: a solitarie place it is, the more commodious for Staggs, who keepe possession of it. In this Forrest and on the utmost edge of this County Ore a little riverett gusheth out, under a large Oake called Hore, I thinke for Ore oake, which immediatly passing into Devon leaves its name unto

ORE.

A small village, in Edward the seconds tyme owned by John Kelly.¹ But the Forrestt takes name from the famous river Ex which here arising, ere it take leave of this County gives the name to

EXFORD.

Which the fourth William de Moine Lord of Dunstar² gave unto the Abbott of Nethe in Wales, on condition that the Abbott and his Successors should maintaine one Moncke at Exford to pray for the said William and his heires forever.

William de Mohun IV, 1177-1194. The grant did not include the advowson of the church, which in 1319 was granted by Johanna, widow of

¹. Nomina villarum 9 Ed. II.

². ex chartis ejusdem familie.

Roger Perceval, to the Bishop of the Diocese (Wells MSS. p. 214). He was, however, only a trustee, as the Perceval family were patrons down to 1612.

Hence the river comes to

WINSFORD.

Called in Records Winsford Rivers, for that it was held of the Family de Ripariis Earles of Devon, and owned long since by one, it seems descended from them, but which way I know not, for a record tells mee "Quod Johannes de Ripariis tenuit hamletum vocatum Winsford de Amicia Comitissa de Insula per servitium, et Willūs est heres."¹ You must not looke for tenures here, for too manie looke into them; and if ye should question mee how this should be held of the Earles of Devon since shee is called Countess of the Ile, my quoted Author² will tell you that they being Lords of the Isle of Wight were often written Lords of the Isle.

The advowson was granted by Alicia Roges to Bishop Reginald (Wells MSS. p. 208, with cross ref. to Reg. I, fol. 59, not 11) 1174-1191. The gift did not become a permanent endowment of the Bishop or the Chapter, as Barlynch Priory purchased it with part of the legacy of two hundred marks bequeathed by Hugo de Romenal, Treasurer of Wells, living 1259. The purchase had been completed by 1273, when the Priory tendered the church of Winsford as a security for a loan from the Bishop and Chapter (Wells MSS. pp. 53, 56).

From this Ex comes immediately to

EXTON.

And gives it that name. This with other lands heretofore William de Wrotham held by Sergeanty to be y^e Kings Forrester of Exmore, and to keepe his Parke at Newton,³ and so gracious was this William with King Richard the First, that hee gave unto him the Barony of Ambrevile⁴ in these parts; this William was Father of Richard de Wrotham,⁵ who dying issuelesse his fower sisters entred his estate, who were married to William de Plecetis, John le Blund,⁶ Thomas Picott, and Galfride Scoland.

¹ Escheat, 7 Ed. I.

² Vincent, p. 155.

³ f. Hauktige et Newton forrester juxta North-Petherton.

⁴ Baronia de Ambrevile in hundredo de North-Petherton.

⁵ Escheat, 35 H. III.

⁶ 48 H. III.

Butt William de Plecetis having marryed the eldest sister¹ was by King Hen. 3^d reinvested in the Bayliweke of Exton, and made Forrester of all the King's forrests in this County, which place his sonne William² and Grandchilde Richard successively enjoyed; the last of which dying without Children, these Lands suffered a seconde partition betweene his three Sisters, Sabina the eldest marryed to Nicholas Peche, whose posterity enjoyed the office of Forrestership of Somersett untill Matthew Peche his Graundchilde alienated both Office and Lands unto Roger Mortimer Earle of March.

Emelina the second sister and Coheire was wedded unto John Durants, who was owner of and tooke name from Durants a place lying in Enfeild chase in Midlesex, and the heire generall of this family in Edward the third's tyme brought Durants and Lands in these parts unto the ancient and respective family of Wrothe Knights who till this day live at Durants, and are owners of Newton Parke here, which wee now call Petherton Parke. This John Durants having sped so well helped his neighbour John Heyron of Enfeild. unto Emma his wives youngest sister, by whom his posterity which soone determined enjoyed Lands at this Exton, which by an heire female divolved on John de Garton. I will conclude Exton as I meane to doe most other places with the Blasons of the Coate armors of such Families as are before mentioned, or as manie of them as by my seeking in old rolles and bookes, Churches, Windowes, Tombes, and antient seales have come to my knowledge, which though to manie that understand it not may seeme a needles labour, yett it may be a pleasure to some, and will seeme right well for the amending of divers grosse errors in Armoury, by mistaking and misplacing Coates of Armes.

Wrotham:

De Plecite vel Plecy: Arg. 6 annulets gu.; a Bend asure
for a difference from John de Plecitis Earle of War-
wicke in Hen: 3^{ds} tyme, of which family hee was.

Blund: Lozenge, or and sa.

Pycott: blew a bend lozenge betweene 6 martlets or.

Scoland:

Peche: Gules a Fess betweene six Crosses crossed argent;

¹ 16 Ed. I.

² carta ejusd. Regis data 35 regni sui.

³ Escheat, 2 Edw. I.

his coate he bore in imitation of his Lord Beauchampe Earle of Warwicke, for of that County originally hee was.

Durants : Arg., a chevron asure betweene three bugle hornes sab. lies (*i.e.*, stringed), or.

Wroth : Arg., on a bend sables, 3 lyons heads crased arg., crowned or.

Heyron : out of an old scale ; 3 herons, the colours I dare not describe, being so often varied by that Family.

Garton : . . .

Nere this, but the Place I cannot precisely point out, stands

HOLCOTT.

Which as a Record¹ tells mee, William Baran in Edw. y^e firsts tyme held : Per servitium pendendi super quodam lignum furcatum cervos de morina defunctos in foresta Dni. Regis de Exmore, ac etiam hospitandi pauperes supervenientes de infirmitate debilitatis, sumptibus suis propriis pro Animabus antecessorum Domini Edwardi Regis nunc.

i.e. Holnicott in Selworthy. Gerard evidently thought this place to be in Exmoor, and he placed another reference to it between Kilve and Dodington ; see after.

Nere Exton the river Ex interteyns a small Rill which cometh from amongst y^e hills down by

CODCOMBE.

Cutcombe wee call it now, butt in records it was antiently written Codcombe Moyne, for that it belonged to the antient Lords of Dunster, and was given to one of the seaven younger sonnes of y^e Lord John Moyne² ; his heire generall brought it unto Roger Dodsham, whose sonne William³ left it to John Pury or Puryman, and Alexander Pymme his Daughters Sonnes. The descendant of which Alexander enjoyes Codcombe at this present.

Moyne : Or a crosse engrayled sa., on it an Annulett arg. for a difference ; his coate you shall see often in the

¹ Inq. 35 E. I.

² Esc. 4 E. III.

³ 20 E. IV.

Nunnes Church at Cannington, where it was sett for
Dodsham who married Moynes heire.

Pury or Puryman : Arg., on a chevron betweene 3 Trefoyles
slipt sab., 3 mulletts or.

Pymm : Sab. a Bull's head coped arg., within a wreath of
y^e second.

John Mohun, of Dunster, ob. 1330. Sir H. Maxwell-Lyte does not mention Cutcombe in connexion with the younger children, but he was probably Payne Mohun, rated at ii shillings in the Tax Roll of 1327, and living in 1366. Collinson, followed by Savage, considered that Cutcombe was divided; one manor, C.-Mohun, which descended to Dodisham of Cannington. The appearance of the arms of Mohun in the latter church point to the correctness of Gerard's history. There would probably be two generations at least between Payne Mohun and Roger Dodisham, as his son William was alive in 1480. The last William Dodisham left two daughters: Joan, the wife of John Periam, and Eleanor, married to Richard Gilbert of Woolavington, whose daughter and heiress Joan by her husband Roger Pym had issue Alexander. The arms assigned in the text to Periam are quite different to those given in the Visitation of 1573.

About two Miles belowe this Confluence falls into y^e River
Ex another river made by fower Brookes on which I sawe
nothing worth remembrance, save Withehill and Brompton.

WITHEHILL.

And that only in respect it gave name to the antient owners
of it, of which Reginald de Whitehill left an heire generall
married unto Wellesleigh from whome by Bannester and
Sturton it came to those Hills antiently Lords of Spaxton.

Withehill : . . .

Wellesleigh : gules a Crosse arg. betweene 4 plates.

Bannester : . . .

Sturton : sa., on a bend or betweene six Fountaines proper, a
mullett, sa.

Hill : gules a saltier vare betweene 4 mulletts azure.

This history appertains to Wheathill near Castle Cary. The manor of
Withiel Florey belonged to the family of Florey, and afterwards to Wyke in
the reign of Henry VII. The advowson belonged to Taunton Priory as
early as Bp. Reginald 1174-1191 (Wells MSS. p. 21); while the advowson
of Wheathill belonged to the families given in the text (Weaver's
Incumbents).

BROMPTON.

Well brooking the name, the Country thereabouts encrew'd with Broome. Of these Bromptons there are two, the one called Brompton Regis and Kings Brompton, for that it was part of the antient Demeanes¹ of the Crowne; this from Joane de Ferrers² together with Broomland descended to her sonne Sir John³ de Albrincis or Averinge, and by his Daughter and Coheire Elizabeth⁴ unto Matthew⁵ Besills; his Posterity flourished in Knights degree unto Henry y^e 6 tyme. When for want of Issue Male it fell by an heire generall unto the antient Family of Phettiplace still remaininge at Besills Lee in Barkshire which long before by the Heire of Lee, coming to these Besills, gott that addicōn from them, and not long since Brompton was owned by them.

As for the other Brompton it's called Brompton Rafe, because Rafe Fitzurse⁶ held it. Butt not long after it was the possession of Sir John de Wellington,⁷ who willingly acknowledged his descent from the Daughter and Heire of Sir William de Campo Arnulphi or Champernoure by bearing their Armes of Gules a saltier vary, by which match they became Owners of Umberleighe in Devon, which Sir Jordan de Champernoure had in right of his wife Mabell sole Daughter and heire of Gilbert de Solariis and Hawise his wife Sister of William de Ripariis Earle of Devon.

This Sir John de Wellington left two Daughters and Heires, marryed to William Beaumont and Sir John Wrothe, from y^e first of them those Beaumonts of Devon issued, as also by an heire generall the Bassetts of Umberleighe.

Averinge: arg., a Crosse gules, a border sa. . . .

Bessels: arg., 3 Torteauxes.

Pheteplaice: gules, 2 Chevrons arg. . . .

Fitzurse: or, on a bend sa. 3 beares heads coped arg. musled gules.

Champernoure: gules, a Saltier vary.

¹ Lib. Doomsday.

⁴ 7 Edw. II.

⁷ 20 R. II.

² Esch. 37 H. III.

⁵ 2† E. I.

³ 42 H. III.

⁶ 14 E. I.

Willington : the same.

De Solariis : quarterly Ermin and gules.

Beaumont : barry of six peeces varyy and gules.

Bassett : barry undy of six peeces or and gules.

The river Ex passinge herehence by Haddon Beacon of an eminent height, enterteynes Guestwayes two Rivers in one Streame, Barle and Dunse, on the first stands

BARLEWICH.

Which name it tooke from the River, and where in our forefathers dayes stood a litle Priory of blacke Canons built and endowed by the Auncestors of Sir John de Averige, augmented by the Bessells, and patronized by the Phetyplaces but now spoken of. At the suppression it was valued at 98li., 14s., 8d. ob., by the yeare.

It would be a natural error for anyone unacquainted with the district to infer from the similarity of the names that the Priory and the river were in close connexion. As a matter of fact the Priory is in the valley of the Exe. From a paper by the Rev. J. G. Howes (Som. Arch. Proc. XXIX. i. 73), it is evident that the first syllable is common to several natural features besides the river and the meadow : the wood of Berlic, and the land of Berlicford, so they are probably all derived from a common ancestor. If the founder William was descended from Picot de Say, he was a relative of the family who held Kingston in Yeovil temp. Hen. II (Som. Arch. Proc. XLIV. ii. 206). Besilles-Leigh near Oxford was in 1791 a venerable old mansion, darkly embowered with oaks, elms, and firs, in ruins preserving the name (Coll. III. 504).

On the other brooke stands

DULVERTON.

A little markett Towne, on the [Saturday], which I thinke more truly may be named Dunoverton, for here is a Bridge over the River Dun or Duns. Hawis Daughter and if I am not mistaken Coheire of Sir Hamlyn Deandon brought long since this and other Lands hereabout unto her husband Thomas de Pyne, of whome and his place take if you please a record or two.

¹Hawisia que fuit uxor Thome de Pyne conjunctim fuit

¹ Inq. 23 E. I.

feofata cum predicto Thoma primo viro suo ad vitam ipsius Thome et Hawisie, per Dominum Regem de Manerio de Dulverton per servitium id. per. annum, ita quod post decessum utriusque Thome et Hawisie predictum Manerium ad regem et hered' reenteret; Et quod predicta Hawisia continuavit seizinam suam cum Nicholao de Bonvile secundo viro suo usque ad obitum ejusdem Nicholai.

¹Hawisia de Pyn tenet ad terminum vite sue die qua obiit duas partes Manerii de Dulverton ex concessione Domini Edwardi nuper regis Anglie avi Regis nunc, quas quidem partes Thomas de Pyn et Hawisia uxor ejus tenuerunt &c. sibi et heredibus suis in perpetuum &c., Et predictus Thomas et Hawisia concesserunt predictas duas partes Edwardo avo Regis nunc et heredibus suis in perpetuum et quod Dominus Rex est² propinquior heres predictae Hawisie ad predictas duas partes; et dicta Hawisia tenet tertiam partem Manerii de Dulverton de &c. Et quod Nicholaus de Bonvile est propinquior heres dicte Hawisie de tertia parte.

³This third part not long after Sir Nicholas de Bonvile gave unto the Priory of Taunton, which sithence the dissolution of religious howses is with the other two parts come by purchase unto the Sydenhams (yssued from those Sydenhams of Orchard now extinct, as they from the antient Family of Sydenhams still Lords of Sydenham and now remaininge at Brimpton in this County), who not many ages before by the Daughter and Heire of Combe had seated themselves at Combe in this Parish where they still remayne.

Bonvile: sa. 6 mulletts pierced ar. 3 2 and 1.

Sydenham: arg. a Chevron betweene three rammes passant sa.; which chevron those Sydenhams of Orchard added for a difference from the elder house who gave: arg. 3 rammes sa. . . .

Combe: or, a chevron gules, a border sables besante.

Ex now taketh its leave of Somersett, and hasteth through Devon to visitt Excester. On the verie Confines of which County it leaves a little on the east

Inq. 4 E. III.

² "Et" in MSS.
Inq. de quo ad damn., 14 E. III.

SKILGATE.

Which in Henry y^e 6 tyme was given¹ to the Abby of Abbotsbury in Dorsett, and now gives habitacōn to a branch of the Family of Sydenhame but nowe spoken of.

It was held *temp.* Domesday by Robert de Gatemore of Roger Arundel. Part of the overlord's vast estates descended through Gerbert de Percy to the family of Fitzpaine; so in Kirby's Quest (1284), S. was held by Alianora de Albamarle in dower of the Barony of Robert Fitzpaine. It had probably been held by this family for at least one generation earlier, as in the Assize Roll for 1242-1243 Reginald de Albamarle was presented by the jurors of Williton Hundred for non-attendance on the first day of the Assize. By a Ped. Fin., 11 Ed. II, No. 160 (1318), the manors of Skilgate and Berkley (near Frome) were settled upon Thomas Daumarle and Cecilia his wife. In 1316 the patron was Sir Henry de Coxe (Weaver) or Boxe (Bp. Hobhouse), a curious coincidence; probably a trustee. In 1349 and 1350 Robert Fitzpaine was patron, probably as overlord during a minority. Skilgate and Berkley had passed to the family of Barnaby *temp.* Ric. II, and in the period 1402-1418 Isabella Barnaby presented to both livings on vacancies.

This is neighboured by

RADINGTON.

Seated in somewhat a barren Countrey whence it seemes it tooke name, for Radin and Redin which y^e Britanes signifies Fearne, and that ever shewes a poore ground. This place had Lords of the same name of which John de Radington lived in Edward the 2 tyme,² but more of them I cannot say.

Reynam de Raddington established his right to a virgate of land in R. in 1236 (Ped. Fin., 20 H. III, 214). In Kirby's Quest Robert de Rachington (*sic*) held R., which is of the Barony of Henry de Newburgh, the coheir with Fitzpaine of Roger de Arundel, Domesday owner of Raddington. In 1412 Margaret, widow of John de Radyngton, presented to the rectory, but within a few years it had been disposed of.

Having thus lead you through this Angle of the County and followed the River Ex, till it forsooke mee and entred into Devōn; lett me now intreat your Company backe unto the North Shoare, which bounds as well y^e Kingdome as this County for that I have taken to be my guide, seing into this Sea all the other rivers of this County either single or in confluence fall. Being arrived at it

¹ Inq. de quo ad damn. 17 H. VI.

² noī. villar., 7 E. II.

PORLOCKE.

A Havenett presently offereth itself to viewe. The River which falls into this Bay Hollinshed calleth Locke,¹ and seems to be of opinion that y^e place takes name of it, butt by his favour I rather conceive it tooke that name from that notable Rover Port a Saxon, who in the yeare 703² did much infest the coast of England, and left his name to Portland an Island on the south of Dorsett, as also I believe to this Porlocke, Portshutt point, Portbury, and others in these parts. Moreover y^e Saxons called it Populocan, which with them signifies the Place or residence of Port, but thus much for the name. The badnes of this harbour (and sure it is bad enough) was not sufficient to keep off the Danes,³ who in y^e yeare of grace 886 having harryed most of y^e Western Ports of this Kingdome came hither, I daresay before they were welcome, who firing y^e Towne and lading themselves with Pillage returned to their Shippes, neither was this the last calamity of Porlocke, for once more was it fired and the adjoyning Countrey spoyled in the yeare of our Lord, 1053 and 11 of King Edw. y^e Confessor, and that by Herald the sonne of Godwine Earle of Kent, who with his Sonnes beinge formerly banished; this Harold sayled out of Ireland, did this, and hence sayled to his Father being in the Isle of Wight, whence they proceeded to do more mischeife. This is still a slender harbour, and over it stands the Towne, which surely I cannott comend. Nott farre from which you may see an antient Mannor house for the Lords of it, neighboured with a Parke and Chase, who enjoy divers priviledges and great Royalties for fishing. The antient owners of it were a family called Rogus, Lords likewise of Holcombe in Devon, who certainly tooke that name from one of their Ancestors³ Christian name, for I have seene in a deed⁴ as old I presume as Henry y^e 2 tyme, mention of Roger de Porlocke miles, and in another not much younger, Dominus Symon filius Rogonis. Sir Jordan Rogus his graundchilde left one only Daughter married unto Richard Cheselden, whose Grandchildren and Heires were married unto Wadham and Blewett.

Porlocke in the meane tyme became the possession of Robert

¹ Hollinshed, descrip. Ang.

² Cambden.

³ Cambden apud Belga.

⁴ Cart. in custodia Johis. Sidenham de Brimpton militis.

Moyne younger sonne to John Lord Moyne of Dunster who dyed Issulesse. Then Porlocke (by what Conveyance I know not) fell to the noble family of Harringtons,¹ and by their Heire to the Marquess Dorsett. Of latter tyme Edward Rogers of Cannington Esquire purchased it and left it to his second Sonne.

There is in the Parke here a Chappell dedicated unto St. Culbone, a Saint I assure you I am not well acquainted withall, and therefore can say no more.

Rogus: azure a Chevron betweene three chessrooks or.

Cheseldon: or on a Chevron gules, 3 martlets arg.

Wadham: gules, a Chevron betweene three roses arg.

Blewett: or a Chevron betweene 3 Egletts vert.

Moyne: or a Crosse ingrayled sa., a bendlett gules for a difference.

Rogers: arg. a Chevron betweene 3 Robuckes sa., a difference.

The River which makes this Bay riseth not many miles off, and in its way visiteth

LOCKOMBE.

So called I should rather deeme from the lowe situation, or Lucombe from the warmnes, which wee yett call Lewe, then from the River Lock if ever it had that name before Hollinshead became Godfather unto it. Whensoever it gott that name, it gave it to the antient Owners of it, who flourished here from before y^e date of antient evidence untill Edward y^e 2. tyme; when Elizabeth Daughter of Hugh de Luckombe² brought Luckombe unto her husband Sir Oliver de St. John³ of a noble Family, as by his Armes you may perceive. Oliver had Henry,⁴ whose Grandchylde and Heire Joane⁵ was marryed to Nicholas Arundell of Trerice in Cornwall, whose sucessors were lately Owners of Luckombe.

Luckombe: arg. a saltier between fower starres gules.

St. John: arg., on a cheife gules, 2 mulletts or; a bendlett ingrailed sa. for a difference, which I have found in many seales.

Arundell: sa. 6 swallowes arg. 3, 2, 1; a difference.

¹ Esch. 7 H. IV.
Esch. 8 H. IV.

Esch. 16 E. II.
⁵ Esch. 21 E. IV.

³ Esch. 3 R. II.

Having brought this river into the Sea, wee must once more be beholding to the Shoare for our guide, where walking wee shall ere long have a sight of

MYNHEAD.

A little Markett Towne, which name surely it tooke from y^e Brittaines Myndde, which imports as much as an hill or mountaine, and store of such even backe this place. Under y^e Towne lyes an harbour for ordinary Barkes, much frequented by such as pas to and from Ireland as being most fitt for y^e lading and unladinge of such commodities as are transported to and from that Kingdome. Mynhead ever was and still is a Member of Dunstell Castell, one of y^e owners whereof namely William de Moyne the third of that name Lord of Dunster and first Earle of Somerset, gave the Church of Mynhead with other Lands unto the Priory of Brewton in this County which was of his Foundation.

Att this place in our tyme a Duch man hath found out Mynes of excellent Alabaster which they use much for Tombes and Chinneypeeces. Its somewhat harder than y^e Darbeshire Alabaster, but for variety of mixtures and Colours it passeth any I dare say of this Kingdome if not others for here shall you have some pure white, others white spotted with redd, white spotted with blacke, redd spotted with white, and a perfect black spotted with white, &c.

Keeping on y^e Shoare still, wee come to

STARLE.

Which had Lords of y^e same Name who were Feodaries to y^e Lord of Dunster.

In the manuscript it is certainly Starle, but as there does not seem to be any place of this name near Minehead, it may be a copyist's error for Starte or Sterte Point, a good many miles off though. In fact it is open to doubt if Gerard was not thinking of Stert, a free manor in Babcary. At a very early period it was held by the family of De campo florido or Champflower, as was also Wike or Wick near Bruton; and in the Return of Knights Fees in 1166 Mohun had two knights of this name. Stert eventually gravitated to the Abbey of Bruton, a Mohun foundation.

And not farr from this though y^e place I cannot precisely point out, stands

BRATTON.

The nominall place of an antient family who issued from Henry de Bratton a Justice in King Henry the third's tyme, and flourished¹ here being devided into two branches untill Richard the 3 tyme when ye Heires generalls were marryed to Robert Fry and William Sedbourghe Devonshire men.

Bratton : Arg. a Fess ingrayled between 3 mulletts sa.

Bratton : y^e same with a border gules. The second I have seen in old Seales and in Cannington Church.

Fry comonly gives y^e same Coate though hee hath one of his owne.

Sedborowe : arg., 3 unicornes in pale runninge Sables.

Bratton is barely two miles west from Minehead, so it is curious that Gerard could not find his way there. Bratton Court still stands, but it is very doubtful if any part is as old as the time of the judge.

Not farr from Bratton wee see Dunster where another rille ends its Course in the Sea ; whose heade we must go backe to seeke as farr as

WOTTON.

Which name certainly it tooke from Wood. This place from y^e antient Lords hed a double denomination ; for first it was called Wotton Bassett, until that Phillip Bassett gave it unto John de Courtney² to hold it by y^e service of vid. yearly in y^e name of Scutage from whome it tooke y^e name of Wotton Courtney which to this day it retaines. Hugh de Courtney first Earle of Devon of this Family gave this Wotton with other lands unto Sir Thomas de Courtney³ his 2. Sonne who by Muriell his wife, Daughter and Coheire of John de Morles (Moels), and Heire generall of James de Newmarch both great Barons had Sir Hugh de Courtney⁴ who died issules, Muryell y^e Wife of Sir John Dynham, and Margaret⁵ marryed to Thomas Peverelle, from whom by Hungerford this Wotton and very goodly estate fell to y^e Earles of Huntingdon.

Bassett : unde of 6, or. and gules.

Courtney Earle of Devon : or, 3 torteauxes.

¹ Escheat, 13 Ed. I, 4 Ed. III, 16 R. II.

³ Escheate, 39 E. III.

⁴ Escheate, 43 E. III.

² Escheate, 2 Ed. I.

⁵ Escheate, 1 H. VI.

Courtney of Wotton : y^e same with a Bendlett Compony arg. and azure.

Morles : arg., 2 bars gules, in cheife 3 torteauxes.

Newmarch : gules five fussills in fess ermin.

Peverell : azure 3 garbs or, a cheif argent.

Hungerford : sa. 2 barrs arg., in cheif 3 plates.

Hastings Earle of Huntingdon : arg., a Manch sab.

From hence y^e Becke comes to

TIMBERCOMBE.

So called for Tymworths Combe, for the possession it was of Thomas de Tymworth,¹ who by y^e guift of John de Moyne of Dunster whose Feodarie hee was, and in right of Lucy his wife enjoyed faire Lands hercabouts; but for oughte I could yett finde his name ended in himselfe, and this place came to Whyton, of whom more at

BOSINGTON.

The next place the River comes unto. This from Talbott, Glastonbury, and Whyton by heires generalle came unto Henry Sydenham, whose posterity still enjoyes it. Give mee leave here by way of digression to observe how our Predecessors used to beare hereditary Coates or others in imitation of them, even to diverse families, for Laurence Talbott² ye last owner of this place of that name gave for his armes : or, a bend of fusells sab. Hee left one only Daughter and heire twice married, first to John de Durburghe³ who gave y^e same Armes. His sonne John,⁴ upon what reason I knowe not added on each syde y^e bend a swan. Butt Sir Hugh de Durbourgh⁵ his sonne reassumed Glastonburys Armes, addinge a labell of 3 points. Hee marryinge the Daughter and Heire of Sir Ralph Fitzurse, his posterity left his Armes and betooke themselves to those, (a thing very usuall in old tyme). Wherefore wee will leave to followe his discent any farther, and looke backe upon y^e second husband of Alice Talbott which was Henry de Glaston or Glastonbury named certenly from ye Towne of Glastonbury for as our best antiquary notes, there is hardly any Towne or

¹ Esch. 7 E. I.
ex sigil Joh.

² Esch. 13 E. I.

³ ex sigil. ejusdem John 4 E. III.

⁵ ex sig. Hug. 8 R. II.

village which hath not given surname to some Family. This man seinge his Predecessor Durburge had assumed Talbot's Coate entire, added unto it for a difference¹ a labell of 5 pointes. But John de Whyton² who marryed Joane, Daughter of this Henry and Sister and Heire of Sir Henry de Glastonbury³ left y^e Labell, and in alluson of Talbotts Coate gave: Arg. a bend of fussels sa. She was after remarryed to Sir Walter Hungerford, and had Children by him. Which is y^e cause you finde that Coate of Armes so often in y^e Cathedrall of Sarum where y^e Hungerfords are buryed. This Joane by her first husband Henry Whyton had only two Daughters; Margerie which brought Bosington unto her husband Henry Sydenham, and Elizabeth marryed to Thomas Pauncefoote. But I will leave this discourse, least in pleasinge my selfe I may displease others, and in place of setting downe y^e Armes which is for ye most done already, I will give you y^e Transcript of a faire Antient deed⁴ of Bosington in whiche I thinke you may finde somethinge worth your readinge:

Benedictus Dei gratia Abbas Ecclesie Edelingsay, universis Sancte Matris Ecclesie filiis, in Christo Salutem. Quod ad noticiam multorum congruum pervenire duximus, literarum monumentis provida deliberatione mandare decrevimus, noverrint itaque presens etas, futurorumque posteritas, quod hac subsequenter rationis conditione, Talbotus de Etfeild,⁵ mecum et cum conventu nostre Ecclesie, finivit de terra nostra de Bosington, ut eam in feudo gablo de ecclesie nostra tenere posset: Videlicet, Quod singulis annis & terminis pro predicta terra, ecclesie nostre xxxs. reddet, et hoc sine nostra vexatione et nostrorum servientium, quod si aliquando quod absit contingat quod ecclesie nostre et nobis in hac reditione rebellis existat, namum⁶ per manum servientium nostrorum decretum est ut rapiatur; cui, si aliqua violentia obviare presumerit, in ecclesia nostra sine dilatione sententia Anathematis innodabitur, quousque in Capitulo nostro condigne nobis satisfaciatur. Dene-geld autem si comūiter indictum fuerit, quantum ad prefatam terram spectaverit persolvat, nobiscum in causis nostris sicum-que necesse fuerit, competenti nostra sumonitione contra Adver-

¹ ex sig. Henr. 2 E. III.

² Esc. 50 E. III.

³ Cart. in custod. Jo. Sydenham arm.

⁴ Cart. in custod. Jo. Sidenham ar.

⁵ Hethfeild.

⁶ I profess I know not the meaning of y^e word,

sarios nostros sine simulatione stabit, utpoti ille qui hominio et juramento et fideitate, tacto sacrosancto Evangelio sicut melius determinare novimus, astrictus est nostre Ecclesie et nostro Conventui. Hec in presentia venerabilis patris et pastoris nostri Rodb. Dei gratia Episcopi Bath. Magno et diligenti discretionis Examine tractata et definita fuerunt. Ad cujus rei testimonium et confirmationem sigillum predicti Domini nostri Episcopi presenti pendet ex charta quam subdistinctione Chyrographi divisimus. Huic conventioni interfuerunt Hughgo. Arch. ; Eust. Arch. ; Magister Marcius Archi. ; Magister Aluredus canonicus Well. ; Magr. Richardus de Montacute ; Wandragessilus de Cruci ; Richardus de Montacute ; Willielmus filius Theodrie, et quos longum est ennumerare quam plures alii apud Lidiarde.

For y^e tyme when this Charter was graunted, its most probable to be in y^e raigne of King Stephen, for this Bishopp Rodbert or Robert was consecrate the first of his raigne. Here you may see the circumspect manner of Religious men in using to binde their Feodaries unto them, and their authority over them, vizt. Anathema for not performinge their Covenants. Here also you may see y^e Antiquity of these Talbotts and that they tooke that name from a Christian name; but I have show'd you so much already that I thinke I have wearyed you.

Its geographical position is of course between Porlock and Selworthy. The charter of Abbot Benedict of Athelney will be found in the Athelney Cartulary S.R.S., vol. XIV, p. 181. The third archdeacon's name is there given as Martin.

I will entreat your Company a little aside this River to see

LUXBOROWE.

In old writings¹ called Lollocksburghe, but who hee was should give it that name I knowe not. This place antiently was a member of Dunster Castell, which coming to William de Moium Earle of Somersett, hee gave part of it to his neerest

¹ Regist. de Bruton.

followers, of which I will not overpasse Hugh de Punchardon,¹ who enjoyng a Moyetie left it unto his Sucessor Robert de Punchardon, who as I have scene in his deed² as I guesse of Henry y^e 2 tyme alienated unto William de Bosco who passed it unto his Daughter Joane and her Heires or to whomsoever shee either in health or sicknes should dispose of, except to Religious persons and Jewes (these are y^e verie words of y^e deede) to which were witnesses Rade. de Ralege, Tho. Torri, Rogo de Porlocke, Ranulfe de Flury, Knights, &c.

Nevertheles from this Robert descended John de Punchardon³ that marryed with Isabell Sister and Coheire of Edmund Bassett⁴ of Saltford in this County who made him father of the valiant Sir Richard de Punchardon⁵ a brave Souldier under King Edward the third and his sonne y^e black Prince in his warres of Fraunce and other places, which Sir John Frossard much commends in his Historie, and tells you that his Shield was Sab. 10 plates of silver. Which coate his posteritye not many ages sithence of great note in Hamshire⁶ gave ever after.

Another part of this Luxborowe was by y^e saide Earle William given unto one Everard⁷ his servant, whose posterity taking his Christian name for their Sirname left it unto their dwellinge called from them Luxburghe Everard⁸ and not long after left y^e dwelling too, when by the heire of Bellott Lord of Frome bellott in Dorsett they removed thither, where if it you please you may finde more of them.

The last part of Luxborowe, Reginald de Moyne sonne of Earle William gave unto James Abbott of Cleve and y^e Convent on condition they should found a perpetuall Chauntry consisting of one of their Monkes forever to celebrate in their owne Church for y^e Soule of y^e saide Reginald.

Punchardon: Sa., 10 plates, 4, 3, 2, 1.

Bellett: Arg., on a chief gules, 3 cinquefoyles arg.

Everard: Arg., on a chief gules, 3 mulletts arg.

But wee will leave y^e feodaries and retourne to y^e River which presently bringes us to y^e fee or honour of which they were held, vizt.:

¹ Fuit testis Carte Will. de Moine de fundacōe priorat. de Bruton temp. H. 2.

² Cart. in cust. Jo. Sidenham ar.

³ Esch. 4 E. 2.

⁴ Esch. 4 E. 2.

⁵ Frossart.

⁶ Punchardon of Elingham.

⁷ Willmus filius Everardi testis cart. Reginaldi Moine.

⁸ Esc. 7 E. 1.

DUNSTER.

A little Markett Towne seated on a flatt altogether environed with hills except towards y^e Sea. This place was y^e Baronry of y^e noble family of Moines, descended from William de Moion called 'Sapell,' who (as an antient manuscript book¹ still remayninge with Sir Reginald Mohun of his family tells) came into England with William Duke of Normandy commonly called William the Conqueror, and by his sword got this Dunster with a large Patrimonie adjoyninge amounting to fower knight's fees. He built y^e first Castell on that Mount stately for site where y^e Castell yett stands, and nere y^e underlying Church a little Prioury dedicated to St. George which not long after hee gave with the Lands hee endowed it withal unto y^e Prioury of Bathe as a Cell, who in lieue of it were bound to keepe here resident a Priour and small number of Monkes to pray for y^e founder, one of which was ever to serve y^e Castell. In this Prioury were this William de Moion as also his sonne William buried, who was father of William y^e third of that Christian name² that syding with Mawde y^e Empresse in y^e yeare of our Lord God 1138, fortified his Castell of Dunster against King Stephen, for which and other services done on her behalfe shee made him Earle of Somersett, or as some will have it Dorsett, which may easily be reconciled, seeing then both Counties were under one Sherriffe. This Earle William built and endowed y^e Monasterie of Brewton in this Countie of which I shall speake more in due place; yet was not there buried as some suppose but by his Predecessors at Dunster. Hee left his estate though not y^e title of Earle unto his sonne William y^e fourth of that name Lorde of Dunster, and hee to Reginald his sonne, who by Alice daughter and Coheire of y^e great Lord William de Bruere had Reginald whome Pope Innocent³ in the time of King Henry y^e third created by his Apostolike power Earle of Somersett by delivering him a golden consecrate Rose, and givinge him a large pencōn⁴ to be paid yearly from y^e Altar of St. Paule in London, having power by the Pope's Bulle to receave it; and thus much almost all out of y^e old booke, which I must for a while leave for by y^e way of

¹ Cart. antiq. in cust. Reginaldi Mohun militis.² Mat. Paris pollicron.³ Camden apud Belge.⁴ 200 marks.

digression I will strive to sett aright two things concerning this family, and those materiall enough, vizt. the Name and Armes.

For ye name, I doubt not but some of the descendants of it will wonder what I meane to write it Moion, when they have so long used Mohune as they believe its y^e true name. For myselfe I have first Domesday¹ Booke for an authentickall Record, when the first William is written Moion, his owne Charters, as also of his Sonne, Grandchilde, and great Grandchild, the foundation of y^e Prioury of Bruton by Reginald de Moyne Earle of Somerset. If this will not serve, the Liger of Bruton that tells mee Earle Reginald amongst other things gave unto y^e Prioury of Bruton, y^e Church of Moion in Normandy, which without peradventure was their nominall place, and before y^e name of Mohun either by ignorance or affection crept in.

For y^e Armes some have sett gules a manche ermin, and have left out both y^e hand issuing out of it and y^e flower de Luce in y^e hand, ascribing that y^e memoriall of y^e Golden Consecrate Rose by the Pope given to y^e last mentioned Earle Reginald and not before used. I commend y^e Concept because it proceeded from a very judicious man² in his Science, but I have seene a very faire Seale of Reginald de Moyon, which deed in another place you may see exemplified, having a Manch and out of it issuinge an hand holdinge a flower de luce. That this was y^e Seale of Reginald this Earles father who lived in King Johns tyme is most probable, for it was circumscribed Sigillum Reginaldi de Moion, and I presume y^e Earle having come by that Title at a deere rate would by no meanes omit it; and if you will say it might be his Seale before hee was Earle, I will desire no more for it plainly will appeare that y^e flower de Luce was borne before y^e Consecrated Rose was given him, for that hee had with the Title of Earle.³

But of this enough; I will returne back againe to my old booke, and my late Subject Earle Reginald, who in y^e Barons warrs during y^e raigne of King Henry⁴ y^e third lost his Title of Earle. Hee had two wives and by his first John de Moyne Lord of Dunster; and William by his second wife, William de Moion of Moyne Otterey, from whome y^e Earle of Totnesse, and others by Heires generalls are descended; and from whome

¹ Domesday.

³ Camden apud Belgie.

² Augustine Vincent.

⁴ MSS., 'Edward.'

in a direct lyne are yssued those Mohuns, as they now call themselves, of Dorsett; as from his other Brother Sir William de Moync, those which long remayned at Hamm in y^e same County of Dorsett where you may finde more of them. The forenamed John a Parliament Baron in Edward y^e first's time, whose sonne John, upon what occasion I knowe not, left his antient Armes and assumed: Or, a Crosse ingrayled sa; which his posterity some of them remayninge even untill this day give. All these were buried at Dunster except y^e Earle Reginald, who having founded and endowed y^e Abby of Newenham nere Axminster in Devon which Land hee had by his Mother, chose that for his Sepulture. But as this Lord John left his Armes, so his Grandchilde of y^e same name left his Estate to be divided betweene his three Daughters, Elizabeth the wife of William Montacute Earle of Sarum, Maud of John Lord Straunge, Ancestor to Th'erle of Darby, and Philippa of Edward Duke of Yorke, after whose death shee remarryed Walter Fitzwater.

But y^e Castle of Dunster with y^e Parkes and other appurtenances came (by what conveyance I know not) to Sir John Lutterell descended of a noble and ancient family in Lincolnshire who had marryed y^e Lady Joan Mohun, daughter of y^e warlike Sir Barthewe Burwash, and Mother of y^e three Ladies, unto whom John Osborne her Clerke dedicated his booke which I have formerly quoted, and yett make use of; it is reported that this Lady obtayned of her husband Moion as much pasture ground adjoyninge to y^e Towne, for y^e benefitt of y^e Inhabitants as shee could goe about barefooted in one day. From this Sir John Lutterell by a long series of worthy Knightes y^e now owner of Dunster is descended, whose faire house built on y^e Castell Mount is the greatest ornament of y^e Place. I can say no more of y^e Towne, only it hath a weekly Markett on y^e [Friday], and is often visited by such as passe to and from Irland, for that in the mouth of this River which we have traced hither there is a pretty harbour.

Moion: Gules a Manche ermin issuinge out a hand proper holding a flower de Luce or.

Moine: y^e same Counterchanged.

Moyne: y^e first with a border argent.

Moyne: Or, a crosse engrayled sa.

Lutterell: Or, a bend betweene 6 martletts sa.

The history of this place and its owners has been fully treated by Sir H. Maxwell-Lyte, K.C.B. ('Dunster and its Lords, 1066-1881'). His account does not include the nickname of the first Mohun, which bears a very suspicious resemblance to the 'Lupellus' of Lovel of Castle Cary. He held 106 hides in Somerset alone. In his charter of the Priory of St. George to the monks of Bath, he gives himself 'me ipsum,' so he was most likely buried at Bath. His son William (II.) was the partisan of the Empress Maud. The author of the 'Gesta Stephani' styles him Earl of Dorset, c. 1140, but this is the only place where this title is mentioned; still, as the two counties had only one sheriff, they may have had to share an Earl. He was probably the founder of Bruton Priory in 1142. The last William (IV.) died c. 1190, and Reginald (I.) his son c. 1213, leaving Reginald (II.) a minor, who in 1246 founded the Abbey of Newenham, the place of his burial, though he died at Torre Abbey on Sunday, January 20, 1257. He was undoubtedly the hero of the story of the adventure with the Pope, who is said to have given him the consecrated rose, the Earldom of Somerset, and an annuity of 200 marks to sustain that dignity. The writer of this history, in his anxiety to set forth the liberality of the Pope, was less than fair to Reginald de Mohun, who could hardly have pleaded poverty with a clear conscience.

In his excursus on the Arms and Seals of the family, Sir M. Lyte could only bring forward two early seals, both of Reginald (I. or II.), bearing a hand habited in a maunch holding a fleur-de-lys. They are quite distinct in design, the maunch in one case being turned to the dexter, and in the other to the sinister. If the fleur-de-lys was indeed added after Reginald's interview with the Pope in 1246, or even later, then he must have had two seals in the space before his death in 1257. Also a fleur-de-lys and a rose are two distinct things. On the other hand, the family must have had some armorial bearing before 1246, and it would be a very curious coincidence if the family already bore a hand in a maunch, while it is quite likely that a devout person like Reginald may have valued the papal gift so highly as to assume the rose or fleur-de-lys with a suitable heraldic charge instead of his paternal coat; and further, that when John de Mohun, in 1330, assumed the cross engrailed, also a simple charge, he was only reverting to the original ancestral coat. The grant of the Earldom and the pension seem to be circumstances to the tale. A third example will be found in 'Cartæ Antiquæ of Ld. Willoughby de Broke,' pt. III. The maunch is turned to the dexter; the deed (undated) c. 1256.

We will now take leave of Dunster and betake ourselves once more to y^e Sea Coast, in Coastinge which about 2 Myles East a small brooke that here falls into y^e Sea will call us off to see y^e Ruins of

CLIVE.

Where in our forefathers dayes stood an Abby of White Monks, dedicated to y^e Blessed Virgin Mary; the foundation of it is ascribed unto William,¹ Cosen of William de Romara

¹ Camden apud Belge.

Earle of Lincolne, as I have scene in an old Parchment containyng a pleadinge of y^e Patronage of this Abby, which says that

William 2 son of William de Romara Earle of Lincoln, and brother and heire to William de Romara eldest sonne of William, founded y^e Abbey of our blessed Lady of Clyff in Somerset, and by y^e oversight of one Hugh Abbott of Rewsbey in Lincolnshire which his father Earle William built &c. &c.

Butt y^e Monkes were out in their relation, and thinking to grace their Abbey by making an Earle their founder, disgraced themselves in neglecting their true founder whose descent as I have collected it out of Malmesbury and other authentique writers followes :

Gerold de Romar had yssue 2 sonnes Roger and William. Roger marryed Lucy Countesse of Lincolne, (who was after remarryed to Ranulfe Earle of Chester), but by her first husband had William de Romare Earl of Lincolne; now lett us returne to William de Romar brother of Roger and uncle unto the Earle of Lincoln, hee it was indeede that founded y^e Abby of Reusby in Lincolnshire, and his sonne William de Romar in his fathers life time was hee that y^e 9 of King Ric: y^e first built y^e Abbey of Clive. Hee dying issules, his sister Joane brought part of his estate unto her husband Robert Fitzurse, whose heire generall being after marryed unto Hadley was y^e cause that James Hadley in Henry y^e 8 tyme claimed and sued for y^e Patronage of this Abby,¹ but y^e Monkes withstood it untill y^e King ended y^e strife by seasing this amongst other Abbyes into his handes. Since Clive hath given habitation to y^e Butlers.

Clive Abbey: losenge arg: and gules.

Butler: . . .

One of the most beautiful things in Somerset. The monastic buildings (with the sad exception of the conventual church) are unusually perfect. The sixth volume of the 'Som. Arch. Proc.' contains a paper by the Rev. T. Hugo, on the extant charters of the Abbey. Since Dugdale's time the chartulary has disappeared. Mr. Round has treated of the early pedigree of the Romara family in 'Feudal England,' pp. 184-86. Gerold de Romara had two sons, Roger and William. Roger married Lucy, Countess of Lincoln, and had issue William, born c. 1103, afterwards Earl of Lincoln, and very probably at an earlier date Earl of Cambridge. His mother

¹ This Abby was at y^e Suppression valued at 155 li. 9s. 5d. q. per an.

remarried Ranulph, Earl of Chester, and had a son of the same name and title. After the death of the Earl of Lincoln (*post* 1141), his uncle William succeeded to the title, who founded Rewsbury. His son William, husband of Philippa, daughter of Hubert de Burgh, in his father's lifetime founded Cleeve Abbey. But not so late as 1198, because one of the witnesses is Reginald, Bishop of Bath, 1174-91. In the episcopate of the same Bishop, William de Romara Earl of Lincoln gave the Church of Cleeve to Wells Cathedral (Wells MSS., p. 211). This formed the Prebend of Cleeve granted by Bishop Savaric (1192-1205) to the Abbot of Bec with the right of perpetual non-residence. Hubert de Burgh gave to Cleeve the church of Queen Camel during the reign of John. Four charters relating to Cleeve entered in the 'Liber Albus,' I. fol. 42, have been cut out.

Almost opposite to this Clive stands

CARHAMPTON.

Which gives name to the Hundred wherein it stands, and takes it as our best¹ light in Antiquities hath, from one Caranta a Britayne who with Decurian that gave name to St. Decombes not farre off, putting to sea out of South wales, arived here in a solitary desert place, where living Eremites' lives were after murdered, and by the People honoured for Saintes, to whose memory in succeedinge ages these Churches were built.

This place Alfred² the Saxon King gave by will unto Edward his eldest sonne and successor where it is written Carenton, which comes nere y^e originall of y^e name. Sithence y^e Normans Conquest it hath still belonged to y^e Lords of Dunster, who have a faire Parke at it for their disport. The Sea after receipt on this Rill working inwards leaves on y^e shoare

CAYNSFORD.

Which I believe tooke y^e name from that Keyne³ or Caine a devout Brittish Saint a Virgin, who Canonized a Saint left her name unto Caynsham in these parts.

This place was held of y^e Lords of Dunster by a family surnamed de Basings⁴ for many generations even untill Hen: 7 time, when what became of them I knowe not. Their armes with three or fower Matches I found in y^e Monastery Church of Cannington. This Caynsford is now a Cheife seate of

¹ Camden apud Belge.

² Camden apud Belge.

³ Asser in vita Alfredi.

⁴ Esc. 7 E. 1; 11 E. 3; 16 H. 6

a branch of the Windhams who flourish here and in other places in great respect.

Basings: Arg., on a fess betweene 3 pheons sa., an annulett or betweene 2 flower de Lucs gules.

Windham: Azure, a Chevron betweene 3 lyons heads crased or; a difference.

Caynsford is now Kentsford, in the parish of St. Decuman. The second son of Sir Thomas Wyndham, of this place, Colonel Francis Wyndham, married Gerard's daughter Anna, and succeeded to Trent (*see post*).

Hard by this Cainsford lyes

WACHETT.

Which y^e Saxons called Waced port, and which y^e Danes in y^e yeare of our Lord 886 robbed and burned. A litle Harbour it hath in y^e Mouth of a Riverett which here falleth into y^e Sea, whence divers take shipping for Ireland; neither are they unprovided of a small markt on y^e [Saturday] which their Lords owners of Dunster Castell gott for them. This as well as Caynsford, and divers other places are in y^e parish of St. Decumans or Decombs of which I spoke but now.

This river consisteth of two severall brookes whereof y^e one cometh not farre from

WITHYCOMBE.

Scarse worth y^e naminge save that it was heretofore y^e Seate of those Hadleys whom as you have already heard contested for y^e Patronage of Clive abby as being descended from y^e Heire of Fitzurse, but Elizabeth y^e only Heire generall of this family in our fathers dayes was marryed first to Sir Thomas Lutterell of Dunster, and after to John Strode of Parnham in Dorset, by both which husbands shee had issue.

Hadley: Gules, on a chevron arg. 3 cross-crosetts sa.; to which was after added a Chief or with a blacke boare passant sa. on it, I thinke as alluding to Fitzurse.

Sir Ralph Fitzurse, perhaps connected with that Urse whose very name could give point to a maledictory verse, 'Hightest thou Urse, have thou God's curse,' died in 1360, leaving two daughters. The eldest, Maud, married Sir Hugh Durborough. Their son, Ralph, left also two daughters, of whom Alice, wife of Alexander Hadley, eventually succeeded to her father's property. Margaret (not Elizabeth) Hadley married, as her first husband, Sir Thomas

Luttrell of Dunster, d. 1571 ; secondly, John Strode ; and thirdly, Richard Hill. In the 'Nomina Villarum,' 1317, Withycombe is held by Ralph Fitz Urs, Walter de Meryet, and Edward Martyn ; the advowson remained with the family of Meryet.

This River hath seated on y^e first branche,

NETTELCOMBE.

The antient seate of y^e noble family of Raleys Knights, of great good note, who took their name from Raley in Devon, and flourished here from before anie date of Writings untill Henry y^e 6 tyme when it descended to Thomas Walesburghe, son and Heire of Sir John Whalesburghe of Cornwall and Joane his wife sister unto y^e last Symon Raley. Of this House there are some families still remayninge descended ; and this place those Raleys held of y^e elder Earle Marshalls of England, as of their Manor of Hampstead Marshall in Berkshire, which was y^e cause I assure myself that these Raleys tooke for their Armes : Gules a bend of fusells arg., in imitacō of y^e same Earles bend [of] fusells gold in y^e same redd feild, neither was it a thing unusuall in those dayes to take Armes alludinge to their Lords of whome they held in fee, for the learned Camden gives a store of Instances hereof in a little treatise¹ of his, and daylie experience confirms it. But I must not thus forsake Thomas Whalisbroughc, who by Mawd his wife Daughter and Heire of William Bowes had Elizabeth y^e wife of John Trevillian a Cornish man, whose posterity untill this Day remain at Nettlecombe, adjoyninge to which for their pleasure they have a faire parke.

Raley : gules a bend of fussels argent.

Whalisburgh : arg., 3 bends gules a border sables besante.

Bowes : ermyn, 3 Bowes bent in pale gules.

Trevillian : Gules, a demie Horse issuant argent out of y^e base point wave arg. and azure.

WILLITON.

Which gave name to y^e Hundred wherein it stands, and seemes by that to have bin antiently of great eminency, though now farre from it, for y^e learned Cambden tells us that hundreds

¹ Camden's Remaines.

when they were first ordayned tooke names from y^e places of greatest note comprized in them.

This was the seate and Inheritance of a family named Fitzurse and not seldome in old Recordes named Filius Ursi, whence I believe it was they by the way of allusion to their name gave for their Armes in a gold Shield, a bend sa. charged with three beares heads coped Arg. musled gules.

Of these, two are remembered by Ancient Historians, but for two severall causes, the first Richard Fitzurse a brave Souldier, who beinge with King Stephen at the Battell of Lincolne Anne 1141 was then with him taken Prisoner, of whom y^e quoted Author writes this Elegium :

'Capitur etiam Ricardus filius Ursi qui in istibus dandis et recipiendiis clarus et gloriosus comparuit.'

The other was his sonne Sir Reginald Fitzurse who is remembered for a worse busines,¹ for hee it was that joyninge with his Companions Sir Hugh Morevile, Sir William Tracy and Sir Richard Britton, thinkinge to doe their Master King Henry y^e 2 commendable service, slewe y^e Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Beckett in his owne Church. Which fact cost y^e King much care and sorrowe, and caused them as sayes mine Author despayringe of pardon from the King, to wander as Runagates hated of all, and hatefull to their kinred and own-selves, restles, until at last they found rest before y^e dore of y^e Temple at Hierusalem where they were buried.

Sir Robert Fitzurse² this mans sonne againe reflourished and augmented his estate by matching with Joane Sister and Heire of William de Romare founder of Cleve Abby; his posterity, of which most were Knights,³ remained here untill Ed. y^e thirds tyme when y^e Heire generall of them was marryed unto Sir Hugh de Durburgh of whome I shall speake more elsewhere, as his not long after to Alexander Hadley of, whome I spake earst while, the Armes I may omitt as being already mentioned; and looke to y^e nexte place that this brooke comes unto where you may see an old house built by Walter Sydenham younger sonne of John Sydenham of Combe not farre off, whose posterity having increased their livelyhoods by the Coheires of Alfoxton in theis parts and Gambon of Morston in Devon, left it to Ellenor their only Heire marryed to Sir John Windham descended from an antient and noble family in Norfolk whose

¹ Hoveden in vita H. 2.

² ex pergam. antiq.

³ Esc. 1 E. 1.

grandchilde bearinge y^e same name hath made it y^e cheife place of his abode, in which hee strives rather to please his affection then to suite himselfe according to his ranke. In this house I remember I have seen these Armes followinge :

Sydenham : Arg. a chevron betweene 3 Rams passant sa., which chevron was added for a Difference from y^e elder house.

Sydenham : the same with a mullet arg. on y^e chevron.

Popham : arg., on a Chiefe gules a besant betweene two Staggs heads caboshed or ; quartered with

South : gules a Chevron arg. betweene 10 besantes.

Gambon : arg. a fesse betweene 3 mens legges coped sa.

Take here also if you please y^e Armes of Wyndham now Lord of Orchard, vizt.

Azure a chevron betweene 3 lyons heads erased or.

The other branch of this river comes from

STOKEGOMER.

A place of noe greet note in respect of itselfe, save for a Satturday markt, which y^e late owner of it Sir John Sydenham in our own tyme purchased for it, who hath a goodly house and Parke at Combe Sydenham within this Parish built by his Uncle Sir George Sydenham, 2 sonne of Sir John Sydenham his father, whose only Daughter and Heire dying issules yett twice marryed first to y^e famous Sir Frauncis Drake, and after to Sir William Courtney ; Combe reverted unto him, and now is his grandchilde. Its somewhat lowe, the very name intimates the soile, and I thinke in this hilly Countrey there are more Combes then in all y^e County. This place antiently was called Combe Allein from y^e owners¹ of it, one of which passed it unto Richard de Sydenham a Judge in Richard y^e secondes dayes, but before this Combe had owners of the same name who held it of the Castell of Dunster, by what service this ensuinge Cart² by which it was abrogated shall shewe.

‘Sciant presentes et futuri, Quod ego Reginaldus de Moune remisi et quietum clamavi pro me et heredibus meis Richardum

¹ ex. cart. in custod. Jo. Sidenham arg.

² cart. in cust. predicti.

de Combe, et Elariam uxorem suam et heredes ipsius Elarie de toto auxilio, quod mihi et heredibus meis facere debebant, ad reparationem Castri mei de Dunster, pro terris et tenementis que de feodo meo tenent et tenere debent; ita quod dicti Richardus et Elaria et heredes ipsius Elarie habeant et teneant predictas terras et tenementa omnino quietas de reparatione dicti Castri mei de Dunster, pro terris et tenementis que de feodo meo tenent et tenere debent, ita quod dicti Richardus et Elaria et heredes ipsius Elarie habeant et teneant predictas terras et tenementa omnino quietas de reparatione dicti Castri sine omni contradictione et demandis in perpetuum; pro hac autem concessione et quietum clamazione dederunt mihi predicti Richardus et Elaria quinque marcas argenti, quod ut ratum et firmum permaneat, presens scriptum sigilli mei impressione roboravi; hiis testibus Domino Willielmo de Regny, Johanne de Regny, Hamelino de Dandun, Domino Radulpho filio Bernardi, Domino Galfrido de Duelsch, Dom. Hugone de Foresta, Ada de Wechford, Ada de Treburgh, Galfrido de Kitnore et multis aliis.

To this deed was affixed his Scale of Armes, being a Manche with a hand issuing out of it holding a flower de luce, and this being y^e deed of Reginald de Moyne that lived in King John's tyme, and father of Reginald last Earle of Somersett plainly shewes that this hand and flower had no relation to that golden Consecrate Rose which Pope Innocent gave unto Reginald this mans sonne when he created him Earl of Somersett as I have showed before; this deed I was y^e more willing to transcribe for that I never found it but once before;¹ but I will returne to Stokegomer with another hamlet which I am unwilling to over-passe, namely

HARTRE.

The possession and dwelling of y^e Lacyes.

Combe: . . .

Alleyne: . . .

Sydenham: Arg., 3 rammes passant sables.

Lacy: Gules 2 barrs wave ermyn.

Richard de Combe and Elaria his wife (also Helar' and Elcna) appear in the Assize Rolls for 22 Hen. III. and 27 Hen. III. (1238, 1243), and most of the witnesses' names occur in the Assize Rolls, or Pedes Finium, of the

¹ apud Corfe Castrum in Dorset.

second portion of the reign of Henry III., so it is much more likely that the Grantor was the favoured individual at Pope Innocent's court, and that the deed is later than 1246 (see *ante*, p. 21).

Stokegomer as such does not appear in Domesday. Eyton identifies it with the Church of St. Mary in Warverdinestoc rated at two hides, and held by Richer de Andeli (or de Stoches) 'de elemosina.' The following references show the correctness of this identification. The entry No. 299 in Som. Pleas of 9-10 Hen. III. shows John de Audeli the chief man in Stoke Gunner. Wells MSS., p. 2, records a grant by Walter de Andelys 'Miles' of the advowson of the church of Stokegummer to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, dated 40 Hen. III. This grant was made over by the Bishop to the Dean and Chapter. In Kirby's Quest, 1285, Robert de Andely holds Stokegummer of Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln. In a Final Concord of 9 Edw. III., relating *inter alia* to land in Stokegomer, Robert Daundale put in a claim; and this seems to be the last notice of the family in connection with the place. This skeleton outline gives no enlightenment as to the origin of Gomer, which in the form of Gummer is a common surname in South Somerset to this day.

From Stoke y^e Brooke holds on his course by

BICKENALER.

Which William Button y^e second (for there was one of y^e same name before Bishop of Bathe and Wells) bought in y^e very last year of King Henry the *second* [third, Editor] of Richard de Windsor then owner of it, and gave to the Deane and Chapter of his Church who still enjoy it, as also the Church of Stokegomer but now spoken of. Hence the Brooke hasteth to joyne with its other branch, and having found it they passe in one streame by

DONIFORD.

Which name I believe it tooke from y^e passage of that St. Donatus or Donell, which left y^e name of St. Donetts to a place in Wales almost oppositely seated; now the Castle of the noble family of Stradlings. At this place y^e family of Hewish in very old deeds written Hewis have flourished from before y^e Date of Evidences untill this present.

Hewish: Arg., on a bend sa. 3 fishes arg. 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLIII. pt. ii.

And so into y^e Sea at Watchett as I have already said where wee must leave it and betake ourselves againe to y^e

Shoare, on which we shall soone meet with Cantock antiently, now Quantock hills, under which lye two Parishes named from them and distinguished according to y^e Seituacōn into

WESTQUANTOCKSHEAD.

Which shewes a faire house and Parke belonging to y^e owners of Dunster and

EASTQUANTOCKSHEAD.

Called from y^e Dedication of the Church St. Andrewes the scate of a worthy younger branche of the noble and ancient family of Malletts, whose armes are : Azure 3 scallops or.

East and West must be transposed, and St. Andrewes is of course St. Audries.

Theis Hills begininge here runn with a continewed ridge farre into y^e Countrey of which I shall have occasion to speake more in another place. Going downe y^e hills wee fall upon

KILVE.

Called in old Records Culve, a large Manor and heretofore y^e principall scate of an antient and noble family of Knightes surnamed de Fourneaux, and sometimes in old deeds de Fornellis; of which Sir Symon de Forncaux in Edw. the thirds tyme [1329] founded and endowed a little Colledge or great Chauntrey¹ consisting of five Preists daylie to celebrate for his Soule &c. at his place. This Sir Symon left one only Daughter marryed to Sir John Blunt, by whom shee had only a Daughter that dyed issules. I have seene very manie deeds of this Dame Eliza: Blunt, dated in Edw. y^e 3rd and Richard y^e 2^{ds} tyme; who used for her Seale a Rose with six Leaves, each leaf changed with a Coat of Armes, 3 of Forneux her father which were a bend betweene 6 crosses crosslett, and 3 of Blunt her husband, which was parte p. fess . . . and . . . , 6 mulletts counter changed. By the death of y^e Grandchilde and heire of Sir Symon and his two Brothers Henry and Thomas who all dyed yssules, a faire estate fell to y^e issue of

¹ Inq. de quo ad damm. 2 E. 3.

his 4 Sisters who were marryed, Ellinore y^e first to Sir Henry de Haddon, Hawis the 2 to Sir John de Bytton, Jane the 3 to Sir John Trivett, and Margaret y^e 4 first to Sir John de Belloprato, after to Sir Hugh de Langton, all which families are long since extinct, but by femall heires manie families still remayninge are issued from them ; by one of which this Manor of Kilve came into y^e Rogers of Dorsett who still enjoy it.

Furieux : Gules, a bend betweene 6 crosses crosletts or.

Blunt : The Seale as before.

Haddon : Quarterly arg. and azure a crosse engrayled Counter-quartered.

Bitton : Ermyn a fess gules.

Trivett : Arg. a trivett sa.

Beupre : Vert a Lyon Rampant or, a bendlett gules.

Langton : Arg., a wivern volant sab.

Rogers : Arg., on a cheif or, a flower de Luce gules.

Not farre from Kilve another Rill takes up its rest in y^e Sea, which issuinge out of Quantocke hills comes first by

HONICOTT.

Where for divers descents the Stenings have lived, and still doe, and thence to :

Stenings : Arg. a batt displayed sa., on a Cheif of the first three palletts gules.

This account is misplaced, as Honicott is in the parish of Selworthy (see *ante*, p. 4).

DODINGTON.

The nominall place and seate of y^e Dodingtons, which from a long series of Ancestors is come to Sir Francis Dodington now owner of it ; and from this family are branched those Dodingtons late of Mere in Wilts, and Sir William Dodington of Bremore in Hampshire. They say that they were antiently forresters of Exmore, which was the cause they gave for their Armes :

Sable, 3 huntinghorns stringed or.

ALFOXTON.

For the next place the water guides unto, the possession manie ages sithence as old deeds¹ tell mee of John de Alfoxton, after it was y^e dwelling of a younger branch of the Pophams heretofore Lords of Popham in Hamshire, whose heire generall brought it unto John St. Aubin, originally of Cornwall whose posterity at this day enjoy it.

Alfoxton:

Popham: Arg. on a Cheif gu., a besant betw. 2 staggs heads caboshed or.

St. Aubin: Ermin on a bend sab. 3 besantes.

Having brought this Rill to the Sea, wee shall soone crosse another which cometh from

STRENXTON [STRINGSTON].

The inheritance of y^e noble family of Fychetts of which y^e third Sir Hugh Fytchett² left Strenxton unto his second sonne William whose Daughter and heire brought it unto her husband Sir Matthewe Forneux of whom I have already spoken.

Fichett de Spaxton: Gules a Lyon ramp. or, a bendlett ermyn.

Fichett de Strengston: y^e same within a border azure.

Which coate I have scene in y^e Monastery Church of Cannington, and was y^e more willing to leave it to posterity because y^e descendants of Forneaux who quarter Fitchett's Coate might learne not to leave out this difference of a border azure.

The reference to the shields once to be seen in Cannington Church, but now no longer there, is a mournful testimony how much of interest disappears in the wanton destruction of armorials and monuments generally at every church restoration. Gerard, Symonds, and Collinson continually bear witness to this stupidity.

Lett us now againe betake ourselves to Coast this Coast, and having recovered y^e hills they yeild a pleasant prospect both by Sea and Land; at Land

¹ cart. in custod. Jo. Sidenham Ar.

² cart. in cust. Geo. Horsy mil.

STOCKLAND.

Which as a Record tells mee Andrew Lutterell¹ Grandfather of Robert Lutterell once Lord of Stockland and Patron of the Church gave unto y^e Master and Bretheren of St. Markes in Bristoll. This plainly shows that the Lutterells had Lands in this Countrey before they seated themselves at Dunster by the Lady Joane Moyne in Ed. y^e 3rd tyme.

This house of St. Marke, being built by Robert de Gourney for the Soule of his Uncle Maurice de Gaunte was soone called as untill this day it is The Gaunts, whence this place gott the name of Stockland Gaunts as well to owne their Lords as to distinguish it from Stockland Lovell an adjoyninge Mannor.

Now called Stockland Bristol. Like East-Quantockshead (see *ante*), it was a possession of Ralph Paganel, and so came to Luttrell. The manor of Stockland-Lovel is not often mentioned. It was most probably the half-knight's fee at Stockland held by William Lovel of Philip de Columbers (Lib. Rub., I. 231). Among available printed records, there is a reference to the manor in a Final Concord of 11 Edw. II. No. 56, when it was settled upon Philip de Columbers and Alianora his wife; and again in 11 Edw. III. No. 201, when the settlement was varied by the ousting of Hugh de Columbers as remainder-man in favour of James Daudell and Joan his wife, daughter of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March. James de Audley was the son of Nicholas, Lord Audley, and Joan, Countess of Lincoln, and sister of Alianora de Columbers (Coll., III. 552).

But of farre better note is the neighbour

STOKE CURCY.

For that y^e Curcies Barons antiently Lords of it, and from whome it tooke y^e second name had there their Castle and Parke, as also a little Religious House or Prioury. Of theis Richard de Curce or Cursy followed William the first, when hee with his Normans conquered this Land, and of him in recompence of his service receaved this Stoke, and other faire possessions which his sonne William de Curcey² much augmented in regard of his wife,³ for being Sewar to King [Henry] the first, by his meenes he matched with a greate inheritrix called Avice or Amice de Rumelly daughter of

¹ Inq. de quo ad damn. 8 E. 2.

² Hist. Norman.

³ Here the handwriting of the copy changes.

William de Mescheng Lord of Copland in Cumberland by Cicely his wife sole heire of Robert de Rumelly. This William was brother of Randolfe de Meschenes Earle of Chester in right of his mothers sister, and after Earle¹ to Hugh Lupus first Earle of Chester of the Normans; but I will not weary you farther with this descent though I could without error draw it from the Viscount of Bayons in Normandy by the only child of Robert Duke of Normandy Uncle unto William the Conqueror. This William de Curcey and Amice had two sonnes William de Curcey who as Hourden hath, followed King Richard the first² in his holy land warres. He it is that you may find witness to the condicions of peace betweene the said King Richard and Tanard King of Sicely at Messano; and Robert de Courcey father of that valliant warriour John de Courcey who conquered the whole province of Ulster in Ireland, and of another sonn from whom the Barons of Ringrome still remaining in that Kingdom are lineally descended. As for the aforesaid William he had one sonne of the same name that dyed issulesse, and Alice with a goodly heritage wedded unto Warin Fitz Gerald Chamberlen unto King John. By her he had the Barony of Stoke Curcy and two children Warin that dyed issulesse and Margaret that married unto Baldwin de Ripariis sonne of William Earle of Devon, and father of Baldwin that succeeded his grandfather in the same title. This Margaret being a riche younge widdowe was after by the expresse will of King John, though much against her own will,³ as the writers of those times thought, married to Falce or Falcousius de Brent one of those Captaines which with souldiers he had procured into England to assist him against his rebellious Barons. Stoke Courcey having lost its auncient hereditary Lords, fell next into the hands of Robert de Wallerond⁴ Baron of Kilpecke, whose issue male⁵ ended in his owne children, and Stoke soone after became the possession of Robert de Fitzpaine a noble Baron of whom I have spoken elsewhere.⁶ An heire generall of theis in E. 3 time brought it unto the Lord Poynings; and his a goodly estate with the titles of Baron Poynings Bryan Fitzpaine unto Henry Percie Earle of Northumberland a man of high birth and from [him]

¹ This word is evidently an error.

² Mat. Paris.

³ Escaet 3 E. 2.

⁴ Hourden.

⁵ Escaet 1 E. 1.

⁶ See at Aukland in Dorsetshire.

Stoke Courcey is descended unto the nowe owner of it William Earle of Northumberland.

The Domesday owner of Stoke was William de Faleise. Either he, or a son of the same name, with Geva his wife, gave the church of Sutinstock (Stoke Curcy) to the church of St. Mary at Lonley, temp. Hen. I. This grant was confirmed by Robert, Bishop of Bath (1136-66). It was also confirmed by William de Curci, by consent of Gundrea his wife and his heirs, son of William de Curci, grandson of another William, and great-grandson of William de Faleise. As he was not the steward, and could hardly belong to an earlier generation, he may have been the crusader. Alice Fitzgerald had two daughters: Margaret, whose married life is given in the text; and Joan, wife of Hugh de Neville, by whom she had issue John, who may have been the person of that name presented for non-appearance at the Assizes in 1242. At this date Robert Waleraund was contesting, in right of Deneis his wife, a claim to the manor of Axbridge. In Kirby's Quest Matilda Waleraund held Radway and Cannington in dower of the King, who had the custody of the heir of Robert Waleraund (? II.). This heir was probably John, who in 1308 was found to be 'fatuus'; and the Hundred of Cannington, with the Castle and Manor of Stokecourcy and the Manor of Radwaye, were committed to the charge of Robert Fitzpayn (Close Rolls, Ed. II.). In 1322, 'by precept of the King,' a fine was levied, by virtue of which the manors of Cary, Charleton, Rade-waye, Stokecourcy, Hundred of Cannington, &c., were settled on trustees for the use of Robert Fitzpayn and Ela his wife (Ped. Fin., 16 Ed. II. No. 217, Div. Cos.).

A member amongst others of this Stoke is

FAIRFEILD.

Which from before the date of auncient deeds unto our fathers daies the Varneys owned and dwelt at; one of which in Richard the seconds time married with a coheire of Sir Thomas Trivett. This place is now the possession of the Palmers, and at it Sir Thomas Palmer some yeares since began a goodly house, but left it unfinished, as it still remains.

The last of the Vernay family was Hugh, whose only daughter Elizabeth (so named after the Queen, her godmother) married William Palmer, d. 1586. Their son, Sir Thomas Palmer, the beginner of the house, at the accession of King James retired from England to Spain, and died at Valladolid in 1605. His son William, instead of finishing the building, preferred the position of a man about town, for which he was fined £1000 in the Star Chamber in the reign of Charles I. His brother Peregrine succeeded on his death in 1652, and in all probability completed Fairfield (Coll., I. 254-5).

Curcy: Arg., 3 eglefts displayed gules. This I take to be his coate for that the Baron of Ringrome gives it unto this daye.

Meschenes : Or, a lyon rampant gules.

Rumelli : . . .

Fitzgerald : Gules, a lyon passant gard. arg. crowned or.

Ridvers : Or a lyon rampant assure.

Brent : Gules a wyvern volant arg.

Wallerand : Bary of six or and assure, an eagle gules.

Fitzpaine : Gules, three lyons passant in pale arg., a bendlett assure.

Poyninges : Bary of six or and vert a bendlet gules.

Bryan : Or, 3 piles in point assure.

Percy : Or a lyon rampant assure.

Verney : Arg. 3 branches of ferne vert.

Verney of Fairfeild : the same, a border engrailed sab.

Trivett : Arg., a trivett within a border sab.

Palmer : Assure, a flower de luce ermine.

After this prospect, if we turne our eyes towards the Sea we presently see a little Promontory called boatstall point, and a few miles off a far larger and more commodious which we call Stirt point from Strout which with our ancestors the Saxons intimated as much as a promontory or point, and was all one with Ness.

At this place fall into the Sea in one newly conjoined streame the two fairest Rivers of this Countrey ; the first and greatest of them hath divers names, taken from the severall confluences soe that in many places it hath lost its right name. This consists of five severall braunches vizt. Tone, Parrett, Ile, Ivell, and Cary, whose severall heads with their increases we must seeke asfarre off in manie partes and quarters of this sheire, and bringing of them together they will bring us back againe unto this place. I shall therefore now desire my reader to take leave of the Sea, and prepare for an Inland progresse. The first braunch wee will undertake to discry is the first named Tone, whose head wee shall find in the Northwest (I meane as we goe from Stert point) of this shire neere

CLOTWORTHY (CLATWORTHY).

A mannor of the Arundells¹ of whom you may read more in another place.² Theis were neither of the Earles of Arundell

¹ Berinton in Com. Dorset.

² Escaet 12 E. 3.

nor the Arundells of Cornwall as the Armes of Roger de Arundell in his seale annexed to a deede dated 7 E. 3. being three barrs plainly shew. The last of theis left two daughters his heires.

Clatworthy, temp. Domesday, belonged to William de Mohun. In the Liber Rub., among Mohun's feodaries was Roger de Arundel, the holder of three knight's fees, of which this may have been one. In 1227 Thomas de Arundel had a suit with the Abbot of Ford concerning land in this place. According to Collinson, in 1573 William Arundel sold his moiety of the manor to Baldwin Malet; and Richard Malet was patron in 1578.

From this Tone cometh to

HEWISH CHAMFLORYES.

Which takes its first name from wood, the second from the auncient owners, it being the inheritance of those Chamfloryes in auncient records written de Campo Florido which many ages sithence flourished in theis parts. The last owner of this place beareing that name that I can find was Thomas de Chamfloyre¹ who lived in King John's time, and left it to his eldest daughter the wife of Rafe Waleys or Walensis, and he to his sonne John, but the heires generall of him brought this and much land in Dorset unto the Fillolls and Fantleroyes of Dorsett, where you may see more of them.

Chamfloyre : Sab., a crosse paty flory betweene 20 billets or.
Waleys : bar of 8 arg. and gules, on a canton of the first,
a bend fassell of the second.

Filloll : vare, a canton gules.

Fantleroy : Gules, [three] infants heads coped arg.

The family of De Campo Florido, represented by Thomas and Luke, held two knight's fees under Mohun in 1166. Thomas seems to have held Hewish and Atherston (in Whitelackington); in 1227 the sheriff was directed to divide the lands of Thomas de Campo Florido deceased in these places between his widow Nichola, remarried to William le Waleis, his daughter Joan, wife of Ralph le Waleis, and Matilda, then unmarried (Assize Rolls, No. 380, S.R.S. vol. xi., and ref. to Curia Regis, rot. 94, m. 6). Another branch of this family held Stert and Wick Champflower (see *ante*, under Stert).

¹ Placita tempore R. Johis.

WIVELSCOMBE.

Now corrupted to Wilscombe is the next place we come to ; a slender markett towne it is, and hath for hundreds of yeares belonged to the Church of Wells. I have not found anything in it or of it worth noting save that it gave sirname to a family whose heire¹ generall was married unto John Cordy,² and his not long after to Poulett.

Wivelscombe: . . .

Credy: Asure, 6 mascules arg. 3 and 3.

Poulett: Sab., 3 swords points meeting in point of y^e sheild arg.

From Wilscombe the River comes to

BADELTON.

As we now call it, heretofore Badialton, where I have seen a strong fort or rampier of Earth such as in those dayes were called Castles, the worke I think of Danes; and the more induced to believe it I am by the name for in an old evidence without date of Reinold Lord of Badialton it is written Hethenbyr, that is the fort or Burgh of the heathen people; and such were the Danes who, as you have heard before, in the yeare of grace 703, landed at Porlocke and infested all theis parts greivously. This in the deed of Oliva widow of Hillarius de Badialton dated 17 E. 2. is called the Castle, and in another of John son of Hillarius de Badialton dated first of Edward the third, *Castrum de Hethenberi in parochia de Badialton*.

By this you see Badialton had aunciently owners of the same name, but they are many ages since worn out, as also the Polsheles who flourished here very aunciently as I have seene in an Evidence; whose heire generall was married unto Hugh Sidenham, ancestor to those Sidenhams still remayning at Dulverton.

Badelton: . . .

Polshele: Per pale gules and sa., 2 swords in saltier points upwards arg. betweene 4 cressants ermin.

¹ Inquisit. 6 H. 5.

² Credy.

Now called and spelled Bathealton. The camp is in the west corner of the parish on a hill 700 feet above sea level, overlooking the valley of the Tone. Its name has degenerated into Hawthorne, which is also that of the farm close by. Collinson says that coins of the lower Empire have been found here, but this evidence is not conclusive of its origin.

KITSFORD.

Is the next place the River Tone comes unto, and from a passage over it takes the name. In old evidences it is written Kedeford which name it gave to the Auncient Lordes of it ; the heire generall of theis many ages sithence brought it in marriage right unto the Sidenhams named from and then dwelling at Sidenham within this parish whose posterity even untill this day are Lords of both theis places.

In Domesday Chedesforde, owned by Roger Arundel. The statement that Sidenham is in this parish hardly requires correction. In Kirby's Quest it is held by Simon de Grenteham. There was another family called Cothay owning land in the parish, which also became absorbed in the Sydenham's line. But part of the manor and the advowson belonged to the Bluets of Greenham. In the church, which has the unusual feature of an arcade constructed of oak, there are small brasses of a male and female figure with another bearing a shield Bluet impaling Vernay, by which evidence the figures can be identified as Richard Bluet and Agnes his wife, daughter of John (or William?) Vernay of Fairfield in this county. They were living c. 1500.

And hence wee come to

WELLINGTON.

A good markt towne on the [Thursday]. This in the Saxons' time King Edward called the elder gave unto the Cathedrall Church of Sherborne; out of which in the same kinges raigne, and in the yeare of our Lord 905, when three other Bishopricks were taken, one for Cornwall, one for Devon, and a third for this Countie which was placed at Wells, amongst other lands, Wellington was assigned unto Aldelme first Bishopp of that Church; whose successors enjoyed it untill Edward the sixth his time, when Bishopp Barlow¹ upon what tearmes I leave for others to seeke allienated it to the duke of Somerset. Since it became the possession of Sir John Popham, who being descended of a very auncient house and made Cheife Justice of the King's Bench executed Justice with

¹ 9 Julii 2 E. 6.

that wholesome severity towards wandering roagues which then swarmed exceedingly that the whole kingdome hath felt the benefitt of it ever since. That goodly house which he built here for his residence is still the greatest ornament of this towne, and now gives habitacon unto Sir Francis Popham his sonne. Within this parish at [Landcocks] are seated a younger braunche of the spreading family of Prouses for many ages very eminent in Devonshire.

Popham : Arg. on a cheff gules two staggs heads caboshed or, a cressant for a difference.

Prouse : Sab. 3 lyons rampant arg. a difference.

The most prominent feature in the church is the monument to the Chief Justice, erected in the south aisle. George, son of John Prouse of Tiverton, entered his pedigree in the Visitation of 1623, in which his abode is entered as Wellington. By his will, proved February 16, 1624-25, he left all his lands in Wellington to his eldest son James, born 1569. His son, also James, was of Lancok in Somerset, and Anne, his widow, is of Landcocks in Wellington (Brown, Som. Wills, I. 82, 83).

Hence Tone comes to

NINEHIDE.

Whose very name shewes what quantity of grownd is comprized. This for some hundreds of yeares hath been the seate of the Wikes a familye very auncient, and which increased their livelyhood by marrying with the Lady Catherine Cobham daughter of Sir Nicholas de Bonevill ; the heire male of theis in our time having only daughters striving to continew his name settled his estate on his brother, and lived to see it by him sold over his head to strangers. This may serve as an example to those that strivinge to eternise their names thinke they may by intailes prevent God's decree in determining families.

Wike : Arg. a cheveron gules betweene 3 crosse molins sa. ; which a younger braunch of this family in Edw. 3 time having married an heire of Casteline of Trent differenced by placing 3 white castles part of Castelines Armes on the Cheveron.

Ninehide, now Nynhead, in Domesday was included in the great manor of Taunton, and is there called Nichehede. Richard Wyke of Nynhead, who died in 1590, left six sons and eleven daughters ; and apparently it was his eldest son John who extinguished the family as narrated in the text.

I will now for your ease and mine owne leave brinking this river, and lett you knowe that in its passage to Taunton it receaves 3 rills from the North. The first having nothing worth the note on it save onlie Brumpton Rafe, which, seeing I mistooke and placed it before with Brompton Regis though it be some miles distant, I shall desire your labour to seeke it there, and courteous censure upon the acknowledgement of my error. More on this braunche I find not, but Milverton with its adjunctes the second streame waters, Halswell, Heathfield, and Norton; the third Croucombe, Biccombe, Hawey, Bagborow, Combflorey, Cothelston and Bishops Lydeard; of everyone of theis somthinge, and first of

MILVERTON.

Which seems to have bin of some note for that it gives name to the Hundred wherein it stands. This anciently was a member of the Barony of Odcombe owned by the great William de la Brewer descended from whom in a succession of female heires Milverton hath acknowledged for Lords¹ cyther in whole or of part Reginald de Bruse of Brecknocke, Roger Lord Mortimer, William de Cantelupe Lord of Abergaveny, Humphrey de Bohune Earle of Hertford, Laurence Hastings Earle of Pembroke, the Lord Sowch and the Lord Gray &c. But theis being all gone, Milverton gives habitacōn to Mr. Lancaster a man much spoken of for a fruite master, whose predecessor first planted himself here if I mistake not by the heire of Roe and sithence they have enlarged themselves by purchase.

There is a pedigree of Lancaster in the Visitation of 1623 and a considerable number of wills in Brown, III. 48-50. It begins with Edward Lancaster, whose will was proved on December 6, 1596. His fourth son, Edward of Milverton, married Francesca, daughter and heiress of Edmond Roe of Cheddar. The father and son had not got on well together: "my son Edward has most monstrously slandered me, has attempted to take away my living, taken part with my enemies against me, and by all sinister means procured my trouble and disquietude in this myne old age, for which offences I desire God's forgiveness." Edward died about 1640, but there is no mention in the Will of his business, and he is described as Esquire.

Milverton is now an ordinary markett towne on the [Friday] and hath adjoyninge to it

¹ Esceat. 11 and 29 E. 1; 22 E. 3; 24 and 29 E. 3.

TORELLS PRESTON.¹

Which name it tooke from the Torrells aunciently Lords of it; and of which Aumery Torrell is menconed by a good Historian² with honnour, for that he followed Richard the first in all his Palestine warrs, and was one of the witnesses to that Charter of peace and confidence made betweene the same King Richard and Tancard king of Sicely at Messina. He was auncestor of Roger Torrell owner of this place in Edward the second's time whose sonne of the same name towards the latter end of Edward the third's time founded a Chauntry in his Chappell at Preston, and endowed the Church of Milverton for serving it. At this parish also are

GREENHAM.

Or Grendenham soc named from greenefeilds, and that name it gave to the auncient Lords of it which family came to an end in E. the third's time, when the only heire Christian was married unto Walter Blewett auncestor to the now owner of this place.

COBHEY.

Which together with Smithenhey and other lands in Devon John de Toriton³ gave unto the Abbess and Convent of St. Edwards;⁴ and not long after Mary Abbess of that place, reserving a certaine rent and service, passed it by her deed⁵ which I have seene unto Walter de la Grave; unto which wrighting being very little are affixed two greate seales, the one presenting the effigies of the Abbess at length in her robes holding a Crosier in her hand circumscribed 'Sigillum Marie Abbatisse Ecclesie sancti Edwardi'; the other the forme of a Church with Sigillum Shastoniensis Ecclesie written about it. From this Walter by conveyance Cobhey came to Thomas Benfik and from him in the same manner to Robert Fermay, all whose deedes were before date; soone after when sirnames grew in request it gave name unto John de Cobhay, whose only daughter was married unto Percehey and her sonnes sold it about the

¹ Preston.² Hurdon.³ ex. cart. ipsius Johis.⁴ id. est. Shaston [Shaftesbury].⁵ cart. in custod. Joh. Sidenham arg.

beginning of Richard the second's time unto Richard de Sidenham auncestor to the nowe owner of it. I have found also in this parish I thinke mencōn of

LEIGH.

Which gave the same sirname to a family¹ of which I have scene many wrightinges dated in Edward y^e firsts time and Edward the seconds time at Leigh in the Hundred of Milverton, and being sealed with a Buckshead caboshed hath almost persuaded mee they were auncestors to theis Leighes which some ages since florished in Wiltshire, seeing they gave for their Armes 3 such bucksheads with a fesse between them.

This place is in the south-west part of the parish. It is entered in Kirby as the possession of John Launtelene, holding it of the Barony of Dunster. It does not appear in *Nomina Villarum*, nor are Launtelene or Leigh enrolled among the taxpayers in 1327. Maurice de Legh and Agnes his wife obtained a grant of Bagborough conditional on issue by the said Agnes from Andrew Luterel (*Ped. Fin.*, 24 Hen. III. divers cos. no. 150).

The last place I shall seeke about Milverton is

NONINGTON.

The nominall place of an auncient family of which I have scene many old writings; the one bearing date the three and twentieth of Henry the sonne of King John of Balderic de Nonenton sonne of Warine de Nonenton shewes a faire seale of Armes vitz a bende and a labell of pointes a thing I assure you not very usuall in that age. This Balderic left one only daughter and heire Margery married unto Henry de Puddle.

This place is in the parish of Wiveliscombe. Collinson divorces it from its 'nominall' owner by calling it Novington. Sir Baldric de Nonnington died 3 Edw. II. For a further account of his lands and family, see Savage's '*History of Carhampton*,' p. 156, under Luckham.

Having thus gone through and round about the towne of Milverton take for a conclusion according to my Custome the Coates of such as before I have reckoned.

Brewer: gules, 2 bends wavy or.

Bruse: asure, [cruselee] and a Lyon ramp. or.

¹ cart. in custod. Johis Sidenham ar.

Mortimer : as the Earle of Marche.
 Bohun : asure a bende arg. cotised betweene six Lyons
 ramp. or.
 Hastings : or a manch gules.
 Souch : gules 10 besants, a canton ermin.
 Lancaster : arg. two barrs and on a Canton gules a Lyon
 passant or ; but this wants a large difference.
 Torrell : gules three buls heads coped or.
 Greyndenham : arg. two cheverons gules.
 Blewett : or a Cheveron betweene three egletts vert.
 Baro de Toriton : sab. an eagle displayed or.
 Bensik : asure 3 helmetts arg.
 Cobhay : . . .
 Sidenham : as before.
 Leigh : arg. a fesse gules betweene three staggs faces sab.
 Nonington : ex sigillo, a bend, a lable of five points.
 Pudell : quarterly arg. and sable, four birds heads erased
 counter-changed.

Now come wee to treate of those places sceated on the two
 rills that fall into Tone and those as I have shewed already
 are 3.

HALSWELL.

The cheife seate of the auncient and respective family of
 Halswell whose auncestors tooke name from this place and have
 left it to be enjoyed by their posterity untill this present.

Halswell : asure, 3 barrs wave arg., a bendlett gules.

Gerard has substituted Halswell in Goathurst for Halse-Priors.

HEATHFEILD.

Called Heithefeild Talbott¹ for that it was the possession of
 the Talbotts of greate antiquity of whom I have already
 spoken at large² whither for avoiding repetitions I will referr
 you. Of this Hethfeild in King Henry the firsts time was parson
 Gilbert Foliott a man of great will and undaunted courage who
 being Abbott of Gloster was by King Stephen³ made Bishopp
 of Hereford and after by King Henry the second⁴ advanced to
 the sea of London. Unto this king he was ever a most faithful

¹ Talbott.

² apud Bossington.

³ a° 15 Steph.

⁴ a° 8 II. 2.

Servant and Councillor, and sticke soe close unto him in all those troublesome affaires betweene the king and the Archbishopp Thomas Beckett that the Pope twice excommunicated him for his Labour; the principle cause I believe that the Monkes of that age could hardly afford him a good word yet one of them¹ could not but commend his resolute answer, for on a time as he lay on his bedd casting divers buisnesses betweene the king and tharchbishopp, for opposing of whom he incurred much hatred; a voice from under his window called saying

'O Gilberte Filiott dum revolvis tot et quot deus tuus est id est Venus';

To which unappaled he suddenly replied,

'Mentiris Demon Deus meus est Deus Sabboath.'

I have read in a writer² of those times that this Gilbert was used to say of himselfe that when he was first made a monke he bitterly invayed against Priors; being made a Priour he suffered his fellowe priours to live in peace, and sharpened both his tongue and pen against Abbotts, complayninge of their overmuch ease and wealth; being made an Abbott, as before you have heard he was, his mouthe was stopped against that calling and his whole indeavors were sett against the Bishoppes untill such time as for quietnes sake he was made a Bishopp also, and having attayned what he aymed at afterwards well held his peace.

NORTON VEALE.

Tooke that name from the auncient owners for it was the possession of Herbert le Veele, who left it to Peter le Veele sonne of John his sonne but father of a second Peter, whose heire generall Tomasine brought it to her husband Richard de Hankford which as a tradition goes came to an untimely end in his parke at this Norton, which take if you please as it was delivered unto me. This Richard de Hankford was a Judge in which place how justly he carried himselfe I know not; it seems by the sequel he had a troubled conscience for having strictly warned his keeper to watch for deerstealers who that night (as he pretended to heare) would be there in his parke, and withall commanded him to shoot any that refused to speake, his keeper expected theis guests; himselfe about the depth of night in his

¹ Matth. Paris histor. minor.

² Joh. Sarisbur. Policraticon.

night gowne came into the Parke and tooke his stand under a tree where being espyed and giving noe answere to the keeper's question was by him shott and soe dyed procuring that to be done by his mans hand which it seems he was unwilling to doe himselfe, though he sufficiently shewed that he had a good (or rather a badd) mind to doe it himselfe. Wee will leave him in his grave, and looke to his sonne Sir Richard de Hankford, who seemed to verifie the old proverbe, that child is happy whose father goes to the devill ; for besides a greate estate which his father left unto him, he much advanced himselfe by his wife Elizabeth daughter of Fulco Lord Fitzwarin ; whose only sonne Fulke dying without issue, the whole estate fell unto this Elizabeth, and by her daughter and heire Tomasine not only a large estate but also the title of Lord Fitzwarin came in marriage right unto William Bouchier auncestor to the nowe Earle of Bathe ; who is still Lord of this place and hath a large mansion house at it but by being leased out to tenants is hardly tenantable.

Veele : arg. on a bend sab. three calves passant or.

Hankford : gules a cheveron nebule arg. and sab.

Fitzwaren : quarterly, the fess indented, arg. and gules.

Bouchier : arg. a crosse ingrayled gules betweene 4 water bougetts sab., a labell of three points of France.

And now having brought this brooke into Tonc, I will nowe addresse myselfe to treat out the third river on which stand many places as before I have noted which I hope will affoord us something worth our labor. The first of which and not farr from the head is

CRAWCOMBE.

Or Crocombe seated under Quantocke hills, which whether it tooke that name from Crowes or noe I know not ; I am sure it gave it the ancient owners of which Roger de Crowcombe lived in King Johns daies, and was father of Godfrey de Crowcombe a man soe favored of King Henry the third that he made him Steward of his house. I have found this man a witnesse to diverse of that King Henrie's charters as to one which he granted unto Jocelin Bishopp of Bathe of certaine liberties within the Bishoppes mannor of Chedder dated the 15th of the

same kings raigne. 3 yeares after vizt. the eighteenth of the same kings raigne¹ he was onlie a wnesse in the ranke of a Baron to certayne constitutions or rather Parliamentary acts such as those times afforded at Theaseksbury touching Prebends of Churches, religious men, impropriations, and Bastards, as in my author you may out of the record read at large ; but also on the presidents of that meeting for the bundle contayning has things intituled :

Placita apud Theoksburiā coram Willmō de Raleigh et Godfrido de Crawcombe ante Pentecosten a^o Regis Henrici filii Regis Johannis 18^o.

The twentieth of the same kings raigne I found him wnesse to a charter bearing that date of priveledges granted unto the Church of Sarum,² but of this enough to shew his place of respect in those times.

This Godfrey gave by his deed a moyetie of Crawcombe unto the prioress of Stodley in Warwickshire. The other fell unto his sonne Symond de Crawcombe³ father of another Simon whose cozen and heire Isalda brought it in marriage right unto John de Biccombe her next neighbour ; for he was sonne of Robert de Biccombe,⁴ who held Biccombe neere adjoyning to this place from which his ancestors tooke name and which together with Crawcombe his posterity enjoyed untill our fathers dayes, and of them there are some still remaining, but Crawcombe now gives habitacon to Sir John Carew descended from the noble family of Carews in Devon.

Crawcombe : . . .

Biccombe : Arg. a cross gules betw. 3 dawes. This stands in the monastery church of Cannington having under it : Orate &c. Hugonis Biccombe armigeri.

Carew : Or 3 lyons passant in pale sab., a difference.

See Som. and Dors. N. and Q., VI. Nos. 25, 75, 103, which give the descent of the manor from 1307 to 1700, when Mr. Carew drew up the account for Dr. Harbin. This history is supplemented by valuable extracts from old charters, &c. The last Biccombe of Crawcombe was Hugh, husband of Elizabeth Tilly of Cannington, and father of a son John, who, on his death in 1568, was declared to be his heir. John died childless in or about 1594, when Elizabeth, his sister, wife of Thomas Carew, was clearly a coheir. It is evident, from the authorities quoted above, that Hugh had settled most of his property, including Crawcombe, on his daughters, Elizabeth Carew and Maud,

¹ Seldon pag. 281.

² Escat. 14 E. 8.

³ ex archivis Eccleie Chathed. Sarum.

⁴ Inquisit. 14 E. 1.

wife of Hugh Smith of Long Ashton, during his lifetime; and that after his wife's death, he married again late in life, and had a daughter and a son John, who was practically disinherited before his birth.

HAWEY.

Or Halswey. This gave name to the ancient possessors of it whose heire generall long since was married unto the Stradlings of St. Donats in Wales descended from that Sir William Stradling or le Esterling, for soe they were called because they came out of the Easterne Countrey, who accompanied Robert Fitzhamon in the conquest of Wales, receaved it as the reward of his valour and which his posterity enjoy untill this daye. Doctor Powell in his history of Wales treateing of this family saies that Sir Peter Stradling in the beginninge of Edward the firsts time married with Julian daughter of and sole heire of Thomas Hawey by whom he had Hawey and Combe Hawey in Somersett sheire and Compton Hawey in Dorsett, and had Sir Richard Stradlinge knight who quartered the Haweys armes with his. Heere I must take a stand for though I may believe the former yet by no meanes this, for all knowe that quartering of armes was not then knowne, and besides it would I believe puzzle him to find out Hawey's Armes. Yet I thinke he had a Coate for I confesse I have seene a very faire seale¹ of Thomas de Halswey annexed to a deed of certaine lands heereabouts without date in which you might plainly see three starres of eight points and about the Escutcheon his name circumscribed. Moreover as farr as I have seen the first Coate that ever Stradling quartered was Beckroll and that was done by Sir Edward Stradling greate grandchild of this Sir Edward, but this by the waye. One of this family built an house at Halswey which now belonges unto the heire of Sir Francis Hele.

An illustration of the house will be found as the frontispiece to Vol. XV. Som. Arch. Proc.

Hawey : ex sigillo, 3 mulletts of 8 points.

Stradling : Pale of 6 or and assure, on a bend gules 3 cinquefoils or.

Beckrolls : Assure a cheveron betw. 3 crescents or.

Hele : Gules a bend of fussels ermin.

¹ cart. in custodia Jo. Sidenham ar.

BAGBOROW.

Was anciently the possession of a family called Brittishe, it seems from their Countrey ; which took an end in Jone the only daughter of John Brittishe¹ married to Roger Percivall whose posterity still remaine ; but her grandfather John Brittish² by his deede before date, and yet by the character and witnessse I suppose to be of Rich. the firsts time, passed Bagborow to William of Reigney ; to which deede is affixed his seale of Armes, vizt. a bend of fussels and a labell of 5 points ; and the inscription after much porcing on it I found to be 'Sigillum Johannis Brittish Junior.'

After the same William de Reyney by his deede gave Bagborow unto Jone la Boteler for her service ; and it seemes she had done him good service in her time, for he intailes it on her and the heires of her body lawfully begotten, and for want of such to Jone daughtler of the said Jone and her heires ; but she prevented her daughter for being married unto one Maurice de Membury, who had lands hereabout of the gift of Henry de Erleigh, had John de Membury, and he Annora married unto Thomas Raly of Cantokshead, whose posterity injoyed it long after ; and thus much out of the evidence quoted in the margin.

There are two manors in Bagborough, east and west ; to the latter the advowson is appendant. West Bagborough was held, temp. Doomsday, by William de Mohun. Richard de Bretesche died 1198, leaving issue John, who married Margaret, widow of Warin de Raleghe and daughter of Lord Boteler of Overley (Coll., II. 314). This entry is under Thrubwell in the Hundred of Harclive, where they seem to have had large possessions and a mansion house. The grant of Bagborough by William de Reyney is still extant among the Harleian charters in the British Museum. In Kirby's *Quest.* Maurice de Meinber holds one fee in Bagborough of the heir of William de Reyni, and he of the heir of John de Mohun. John Membury was a taxpayer in 1327.

But before this date the manor of West Bagborough, with other property, had been settled upon Stephen de Bello Monte and Joan his wife (Ped. Fin., 33 Ed. I., 304, divers cos.). Against this settlement, Robert, son of Robert de Acton, put in his claim. Though I have not been able to follow it up, it is an important clue, for in 1345 Richard de Acton was patron. In 1402 the manor and advowson had passed to Sir Thomas Brooke, and the presentation in 1430 was made by his widow Johanna, previously married to Robert Chedder ('Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLIV. ii. 14). Their son Sir Thomas Brooke succeeded his father in 1418, being already the husband

¹ Inquisit. 15 E. I.

² ex cart. antiq. in custod. Thome Lyte ar.

of Joan Braybrooke, daughter and heiress of Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham. In 1436 he had a release of the manor and advowson of West Bagborough from the trustee; and he died in 1442 (not 1429, as given in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLIV. ii. 20). Either in his lifetime, or soon after, the manor had again 'changed hands, as in 1461 Robert Tanfield was patron. In Gerard's day it belonged to the family of Stawell.

East Bagborough was the property of Ralph Paganel in 1086; from him descended, like East Quantockshead, to the Luttrells. By a fine levied in 1239 (Ped. Fin., 24 Hen. III., 150, divers cos.), Andrew Luttrell granted the manor of Bagborough, which is of the fee of Andrew, to Maurice de Legh and Agnes his wife and the issue of Agnes, on failure of which condition the manor is to revert to Andrew.

Within this parishe or very neere unto it lyes

HETHFEILD COLUMBERS.

The inheritance of the Nevills of which family some were famous, as Hughe de Novilla,¹ who in a neere place to his person attended King Richard the first whilst he warred in the holy land, and there slew a Lyon by driving an arrow first into his brest and then with his sword, and this was the cause he used in his scale, which was very large and bigger then the evidence, a man armed at all points in male brandishing his sword in his right hand, and with his left grasping the throate of a Lyon rampant against him as high as his shoulders; in the circumference I saw 'Sigillum Hugonis de Novilla.' This was annexed unto a deed by which he gave certaine Lands in the Wild mores that is Cantoke hills adjoyning, for soe were they then called, unto Hughe Barrell, which deed with the confirmation of his sonne John, of whom I shall by and by speak, I found amongst the evidence of my loving freind Thomas Lyte of Lites-Cary Esquire, who of his Courtesie lent them and more unto me, of which I have made much use. But to returne, King Richard, as Hourden² tells mee, made this Hugo Novilla proto-forester or cheife-justice of all the forests in England as one most fitt for it, for seeing he could tame the king of beasts noe doubt he was able to protect the rest, of which his late recited action I remember I have read this old rymeing verse:

'Viribus Hugonis vires periere leonis.'

But ere long he grew more favourable unto beasts, and wreaked his wrathe on men, by putting in execution even to

¹ Fabian, Speed.

² Hourden.

the highest all the forest laws whereby many suffered and himselfe not long after was arrested by deathe, and was buried¹ in the Priory of Waltham in Hertfordshire where the maine of his estate lay.

His sonne John succeeded him, on whose seale to the confirmation of the grant before spoken of, being larger than his father's, was almost the same impression differing in that this had a helmett partly open, a loose garment over his male, and an Escutcheon or sheild on his breast on which his enimye the Lyon seemed to seize, and this was circumscribed: 'Sigillum Johannis de Novilla filii Hugonis'; after earnest view of his sheild I saw it of his Armes on it vizt. a bend and a chefe indented by which I plainly saw he was a distinct house from the noble family of Neville. This John de Novilla inherited his fathers estate and office, and it seemes could not alienate the curses laid on him; for in the yeare of our Lord 1249 being the nine and twentieth of King Henry the thirds reigne, he was questioned for divers transgressions against and omissions of the forest laws, and was fined 2000 markes for it, upon which he tooke such conceite that the same yeare he dyed, and was buried by his father at Waltham.²

His sonne William de Neville much weakened in his estate by his fathers disasters, sought what in him laye to repaire it by matching in marriage with Isabell one of the daughters and coheires of Walter de Waldrond a greate Baron, but by her had one only daughter Jone³ wife of Sir Jordan de St. Martin from whom by heires generall divers eminent families still remaining are issued.

Brittish: ex sigillo, a bend of fussels, a labell.

Reyny: Gules, 2 wings conjoined ermin.

Nevill: Arg., a chefe indented vert, a bend gules.

Waldrond: Barry of 6 or and assure, an eagle displayed gules.

St. Martin: Sab. 6 lyons rampant or, 3, 2, and 1.

COMBE FLORY.

Soe called for a difference from the many Combes which this tract affords; as also for a remembrance of its ancient Lords sir-named de Flury and de Flory, who whether in allusion to their

¹ Registr. de Waltham.

² See *Athenæum*, 1899, i. p. 40.

³ Escaet. 47 H. 3.

name, or else wherefore I knew not, gave for their Armes, the Armes of France adding only a cressant arg. between the three flower de lises. Of theis I have found mention of Sir Ralphe de Flury knight in a deed I dare say as old as King Henry the seconds time, of his sonne Sir Simon de Flury,¹ and Simon his sonne.² I have found them in publique records, but by an heire generall of this family Combe fell to Nicholas Hele of Hele in Devon, and Alice his daughter brought it to William Francis. Neverthelesse here remayned of the same stocke a family of the Floris in this County as elsewhere³ you may find. Theis Franceis, as Sir W. Poole (who tooke much paines in this kind) hath, were very ancient in Devon; I am sure they were not new here, for amongst the pleadings of Richard the first⁴ I find mencon of Ernaldus le Franceis; soe called certainly from his Country, for le Franceis is as much as the Franke or Frenchmen; and in the first year of King John⁵ his sonne Robert le Franceis both within the Countie of Somersett. The posteritie of theis men are owners of and live in very good respect at Combe Flory even till this present time.

Flory: asure, a crescent arg. betw. 3 flower de luces or.

Hele: arg., a pale of fussels gules.

Francis: arg., a cheveron betweene 3 mulletts gules.

In the Liber Niger for Hampshire, Hugh de Florey is entered as holding of the Bishop of Winchester three knight's fees, which were formerly held by Baldwin de Cumba; as the Bishop had no separate 'carta' for his numerous tenants in Somerset, the juxtaposition of Combe and Florey is pretty good evidence that this manor is intended. A certain Robert de Flurey mentioned in the same 'carta' may have been the ancestor of the family who owned Nynhead Florey and Withiel Florey. In his elaborate account of the family of de Meryet, Mr. Greenfield showed that the manor of Combe Florey was held by Walter de Meryet, clerk, of Hestercombe, who died in 1345; but it does not appear when that family acquired it. On the failure of the Hestercombe branch, it passed to Sir John de Meryet of Merriott, who sold it to Sir Henry Percehay in 1373; and in a short time it came to the family of Francis.

In the north aisle of the church are recumbent effigies of a Meryet with his wife and daughter. Though broken, the shield shows both the original coat and also the bend added for a difference. I should suppose it to be the tomb of Simon de Meryet, living 1276, and of Lucy Mallet his wife. In the same aisle, partly hidden by a pew, is a small brass of Nicholas Francis, d. 1526.

¹ Plita 3 Reg. Joh. ² Plita 10 R. Joh. ³ See at Claford, Cloford.

⁴ Plita R. 1.

⁵ Plita i. R. Joh.

COLTHESTONE.

A place very remarkable for that a long time it hath bin and still is the cheife seate of the right noble and ancient familie of the Stawells;¹ who tooke that name from Stawell sceated neere Poldenhill in this Countie; which place they long possessed. For the antiquity I may averse that since King Stephen's time they have florished untill this present. Of which there have been many knights of very eminent note and place as they continew till this day having much increased both the repute and riches of their house by joyninge in marriage with the severall heires of Stratton heretofore of Stratton neare Evercreech, of Sir Philipp de Columbariis, of William Gascelin, of Sir Richard de Merton, of John Fairway who was heire generall unto Sir John Longland, Sir Mathew Forneux, Sir Raph Beaupre, Fitzive, and Fitchett; also they matched with a Coheire of Sir John St. Maure of right noble birth, for descended he was from the right noble Lords St. Maur of Cary as they by female heires from the Baron of Morwicke in Northumberland, the Lord Souch of Ashby, the Lord Lovell of Carey, Sir John St. Low Sir John de Erley, and divers others.

Their mansion house is faire and ancient, pleasantly sceated on the declining of a hill towards the South, and accomodated with a park adjoyninge.

Stawell: Gules, a crosse of losenges arg.

Stratton: Arg., on a crosse sab. 5 besants.

Collumbers: Gules a bend or, a labell of 3 points arg.

Theis commonly quartered sab. a crosse pate fitche or, which by many is mistaken for Collumbers Coate, and sett before it.

Gascelin: Asure 10 billets or 4, 3, 2, and 1.

Merton: Asure 3 bends arg.

Fayreway: Sab. a cheveron ermin betweene 3 scollops arg.

Langland: Arg. a wivern volant sab.

Forneux: Gules a bend betweene 6 crosses crossed or.

Beupre or de Bellocampo gave according to his name a faire greene feild having on it a Lyon ramp^t or, over all a bendlett gules.

¹ Galfridus de Stawell, avus; Adam de Stawell pater; Galfridus de Stawell, plita de 10 Reg. Johan.

Fitzive: Gules a bend between six lozenges or.

Fitchett: Gules a lyon rampant or, a bendlett ermin within a border assure.

St. Maure: Arg., two cheverons gules, a labell asure.

Morwicke: Gules, a saltier vare arg. and sables.

Souche: Gules 10 besants a quarter ermin.

Lovell: Or, crussell and a Lyon ramp^t asure.

St. Low: Arg. a bend sables a labell gules.

Erley: Gules 3 scoloppshells within a border ingrayled arg.

The old manor house of Cothelstone still stands in its pleasant position, though now only inhabited by a farmer. On the slope of the Quantocks, immediately behind the house, is the church, filled with monuments and heraldry of the house of Stawell. Sir John Stawell, the head of the family in Gerard's day, was a typical cavalier, both in his loyalty and his losses. He lived to see the Restoration, and died at his house at Low Ham, February 21, 1661-2.

LYDIARD.

Called Bishoppes Lydiard ever after King Edward the elder during the rule of y^e Saxons gave it to the Bishopp of Sheirborne; but when as the Bishoprike of Wells was taken out of that Church, this amongst other lands fell to that Bishopp, whose successors injoyed it untill Edward the sixth time; when great men thinking Parsonages fitter for Churchmen then Mannors, doubting least too many Mannors might make them forgett theire manners, for riches are very seldome unaccompanied with pride, though pride many times goes without riches; gott this Mannor of Lydiard into his owne fingers after the Church had injoyed it 700 and odd yeares; and left the Church the Parsonage which they injoy to this day. It is a slender markett towne on the [Monday]; and at it, which I am unwilling to overpasse, a younger branche of the noble family of Mallett have their cheife sceate.

Mallett: Asure, 3 scoloppes or, a difference.

The River Tone our guide growne greate now with theis increases watereth first

HILL BISHOPP.

Pleasantly sceated on a rising over the River whence it takes the name; as for the other it was soe called because it

belonged to the Bishopp of Winton. Its now the dwelling of Sir John Farwell descended of very ancient gentry as I have elsewhere noted; whose armes of Sab. a cheveron ermin betweene 3 scolloppe arg. I have seene often in the windowes of the bigger Church at Taunton where it seemes they have stood ever since y^e building of it.

Gerard's statement that the family of Farwell are treated of in another place is an incidental proof that he had 'surveyed' the whole county, as their other home was at Holbrook near Wincanton, which in his plan must have been taken last.

The prospect and walk have been destroyed by gas works, tall chimneys, and other evidences of the commercial prosperity of Taunton.

Hence by the Riverside have y^e a most pleasant and delectable walke to Taunton rayseed high with gravell which reacheth neere a mile and affordeth greate pleasure unto y^e Townesmen; for besides the River which is heere fayre and very cleare, you have the prospect of many faire orchards, gardens, and cherry gardens, of which there are a greate number hereabout, and there cherries ripe welneere as soon as at London, for the greet¹ is rich redd earth which produceth all fruits not only in greate plentye, but very early, insomuch that they have pease and other suche fruits as soone as London; from this walke also you may see many and those most flourishing meadowes lying by y^e Riverside, but that which better deserves the viewe is

TAUNTON.

Named from the river Tone which heere hath a faire bridge over it. A faire and pleasant towne this is I assure you, whether you consider the largenes of it, the bewtie of y^e streetes and markett place, having springs of most sweet water continuallie running through them, or the sweet situation, or a rich soyle; for in theis three respects, it equalls if not surpasses any towne in this Countie; is also for frequencie of trading, which most consists in woollen clothes and stuffe, and the Saturday markett, which is soe greate that notwithstanding divers other little markett townes are round about it, that an honest and sufficient townsman hath ascertained me, it is constantly served by 140 butchers, and indeed the towne is the

¹ *I.e.* grit = soil.

cheife in the whole County setting aside the Citties. For the Antiquity I have not found any mencon of it untill King Ina¹ in the West Saxons time, who began to raigne in the yeare of grace 688 for hee built a Castle at it for his residence, and surely it is very probable it was a place of some note before the King sceated his dwelling at it. This Castle his wife Desbargia about 36 years after rayseed to the ground when she had expelled hence Eadbrich king of the South Saxons, he having made himself Lord of it used it for a bridle to keep in order the adjoyning Country which hee had conquered.

In Edward the Confessors time,² [so]³ saith the Survey booke of England, it paid tribute after the rate of 54 hides, and had in it 63 Burgesses; the Bishopp of Winchester holds it as Lord, and his Courts and Pleas were kept heere thrice in the yeare, and theis Customs appertaine unto Taunton: Bargeherist, Theeves, Hamfare, peace of y^e Hundred and peace of St. Peter, thrice in y^e yeare to hold the Bishopps pleas without warning, to goe forth to warfare with the Bishops men.

In place of the demolished Castle was in succeeding ages another built by the Bishopps of Winchester, who till this day remaine Lords not only of the towne, but also of the whole Deanery of Taunton reachinge neere twentie miles off in a very riche vaine.⁴ The tenure of theise tennants soe much spoken of, Taunton Deane hold as copyhold of Inheritance; they pay a yearly rent, due suit to y^e Courts as you have seene before, and on the death of any tennant the next for his admittance paies double the rent as a fine. A tennant in possession may upon y^e delivery of a straw before witnesse give his liveing to his wife child or a meere stranger or to anyone to their use, but the wife being possessed of it may give it to her second husband or to whom she pleaseth by whiche meanes liveings many times goe the contrary way. The auncient priviledges before menconed out of Doomsday booke they still enjoye; they are freed from being impanelled in Juries either at the assisses or sessions, they forfeit not their estate by fellony, and divers other immunities they enjoy which makes theis liveinges equalled by all and by many preferred before land of inheritance and after as dear a rate they are sold.

This castle hath since bin severallie repaired by severall

¹ Hen. Huntingdon.

² Lib. Doomsday.

³ MSS., 'he.'

⁴ *L.e.* veine, used in this sense by Coryat, Crudities, I. 50, qu. Century Dict.

Bishoppes of Winchester, but of latter times it was most beholding unto Richard Fox Bishopp in the raigne of King Henry the seaventh, who new builded much of it as his Armes graven in stone in very many places doe testifie, which are a pellican in neast wounding her breast for her young; the coullers are in assure, a good Embleame I assure you of a good Bishopp who should be soe tender over his charge as not to spare his dearest paines imetated by this bird's blood for the good of them. This Bishopp Fox¹ after in the yeare 1522 being the very next yeare after hee had finished Corpus Christi Colledge in Oxford of which he was founder, built within the precincts of this Castle a faire free-schoole for the trayninge up of youth in good literature, and adjoyninge unto it an house for the schoolmaster, whom he endowed with a certain stipend for ever.

Within this Castle is the Bishoppes prison for the whole denary, exempted from the Sheriffs jurisdicōn, and yet in this Castle most comonly are the summer assisses for this Countye kept but thats by tolleracon and for benefitt of the towne.

The auncient govenment was by two . . . but sithence the raigne of King Charles during the vacancye of the sea of Winchester they procured a corporacon to be governed by a Mayor assisted with . . . Aldermen which they aymed at long before but were still crossed by the Bishoppes of Winton their Lords.

The Church of this towne (for they have but one, but seems to have two by reason a parish joins so close unto it that it seemes part of the towne), is exceeding large, and soe it had need, somewhat low built, but of y^t breadth that within a few feet it equalls St. Paule's in London, which is the cause they have sustayned the roose wth foure rankes of pillers but what the Church wants in heighth, the bell tower at the west end of it hath with advantage, for for exceeding height, largenesse, curiouse workmanshipp even from bottome to the highest pinacles topp, it farr exceeds any that hitherto I have seene, and a kind of wonder it is to see how strangly it gages when the bells are rung, being six heavy bells. I desire it may not be thought a greater vanity in me to specifie a good ring of bells, then in another in a treatise of this nature to mencon a worse, namely Hinckly in Leicestershire,² but it seems good rings were scarce in that Country. I am sure they are not here, seeing almost

¹ Goodwin in vita ejus.

² Burton, Description of Leicester, p. 134.

every Parish have five or sixe, and the townes rather more than lesse, but of this enough. There was heretofore in this Church of Taunton dedicated to St. Marie Magdalen a fraternity or brotherhood of St. crosse, by whom built I knowe not, increased it was in Richard the second's time by one Robert de Bath¹ and Tissania his wife in the adjoyninge parish called St. James from the dedicacon of the church. I saw little worth observacon save a faire house sceated neere the bridge foot accomodated with pleasant gardens and orchards called Yard built by the Hills of which soom remayne untill this daye, but an heire generall brought this unto Thomas Brereton, who, by his armes of arg. 2 barrs sab. with a difference, acknowledges himselfe descended from an ancient family to this daye owners of Brereton in Cheshire. His sonne of the same name not long since dyed issulesse hath left this unto . . . Ancktill his nephewe by his sister.

The last thing I shall speak of here are the religious houses now vanished, and the almehouses yet remayninge. Of the first sort there were twoe, the more auncient a Covent of blacke Nuns,² dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paule first founded by Walter Gifford Bishopp of Winchester in King Henry the firsts time, and soe much increased by Henry of Bloys his successor that he was accompted a founder.

The other was of fryers Carmelites, which name they tooke from Mount Carmile a hill in Syria where the order was first instituted by Almene Bishopp of Antioch in the yeare of our Lord 1122. Theis sceated themselves on the East of Taunton in the meadowes, where they receaved nine acres of ground of the guift of Walter de Merriott on which they built their Church and house, which ere long grew and increased soe that in some miles compasse most of the parish Churches were but as Chapells to it; many conceiving such an opinion of their holynesse that they desired to lay their bodies either in their Church or churchyard, and indeed the freedome of sepulture heretofore granted by y^e Pope unto divers religious houses was not their least renew, for although the dead bodies came empty handed as being able to hold nothing, yet hetherto have I never seene the will of any dead body which bequeathed his body to be buried in an Abbey but the Testator gave something of vallue with it, otherwise I feare the Moncks would not have song dirge

¹ Inq. 21 R. 2.

² [An error for Canons.]

so merily for them; but as well those that brought their sepulchres as the Monks are now dubble buryed first in their graves and secondly with the ruines of the Church and priory on them, for that fatall thunderclapp in Henry y^e eight's daies amongst the rest of religious houses overthrew this priory to the ground, and now in place of it stands a handsome house built by the Moores who still owne it, and one of which I remember I have seene a tombe in the Church haveing graven on it their Armes of arg. two barres ingrailed asure betweene nine martletts gules; but this house, the cause I knowe not, is so neglected that it is altogether uninhabited.

SAVAGE
HT 85 95

For the Almshouses, the first stands in the highway east from y^e towne, and was built by Bishopp Fox as his Armes graven in stone over the entrance plainly shewes. Neare the church is a longe rowe of meane building poore enough for poore people and to that use imployed, but by whom built I knowe not, and not farr from that a rancke of fine Almshouses built and endowed in our owne time by one Mr. Hewis who deserves a better memoriall then that is sett in the Church for him, and by his Armes on it being arg. on a bende sa. 3 fishes arg. with a cressant for difference shewes he is come from those Hewis of Doniford before spoken of.

And thus much of the towne of Taunton which is an ancient Burrough, and hath the Priviledge of sending Burgesses to the High Court of Parliament.

It must be remembered that this description was written before the sieges of the Civil War. The few fragments of old buildings still surviving are just sufficient to give an idea of the picturesqueness of an English town, which, it may be well to hint to all concerned, is quite obtainable still, plus modern requirements.

To comment on all the matters connected with the town of Taunton would require not a footnote but a supplementary volume.

The charter was granted during the interregnum between the death of Lancelot Andrewes and the appointment of Richard Neile in 1628.

One would dearly like to suggest that the initials R. B. on the outside of the tower, and the same initials with a merchant's mark on some glass in the interior, are those of Robert de Bath, who in 1398 gave land to the chantry of the Holy Cross in the church. At the rebuilding of the tower in 1503, certain earlier portions were retained, and perhaps these.

The first almshouses mentioned in the text were originally founded as a hospital for lepers, c. 1160, and were rebuilt by Abbot Beere of Glastonbury, c. 1510. The mitre carved over his initials R. B. seems to have deceived Gerard. The almshouses in Magdalen Lane are still standing and somewhat improved, though nothing short of a gratuitous supply of the

electric light can ever make them suitable for dwellings. In 1671 their history was unknown (Toulmin's 'Taunton, edit. Savage, p. 228). A negative proof of the date of the Survey is shown in that no mention is made of Gray's Almshouses founded in 1635.

On each side of the town the river Tone is increased by a small rill. That which cometh from the north hath noe place nere it observable save

HESTERCOMBE.

Heretofore the sccate of Sir John de Merriett,¹ written of Hestercombe for a difference of Sir John de Merriett of Meriet his kinsman, unto whose Armes being barry of six or and sables he added a bend ermin for a difference. It is nowe and for divers ages hath bin the cheife sccate of the Warrs braunched from y^e noble familie of the Lords Lawarr, who injoy it untill this present. Theis gentlemen were like at one clapp to loose both their name and Armes for De laware, or Laware was alienated into Warr, and soe have I scene it in records; and being descended from an heire generall of Kentisbury,² bore their armes, beinge gules twoe wings arg. debruised with a bend asure, soe long that it goes comonly by the name of Warr unto this day; when indeed their Armes are gules crusele and a Lyon rampant arg., having for a difference of the Lord Lawarrs house a border ingrail'd as I have scene it in Brimpton house, for one of y^e Sydenhams heretofore matched into this family. I neede not conclude with the Coates here, seeing I have specified them all already. [For Meryet of Hestercombe, see Som. Arch. Proc., XXVIII. pt. ii.]

The South rill that here falls into Tone comes downe by

PITMINSTER.

A greate parish, and yet I can say little of it nay nothing, save that it compriseth as hamletts belonging unto it Barton which from an old grange heretofore belonging to the Hospitall of S. John's in Bridgewater is now become a faire house and the cheife sccate of the Coles, the last of which a few yeares sithence dying without issue male left it to his daughters married to Mr. Doddington and Sir William Portman. And

¹ ex cart. dat. 1 E. 2, 7 E. 2; Escat. 1 E. 3.

² Escat. 6 E. 4; 12 E. 4.

Pounsford where you may see two mansion houses belonging to the families of Symes and Hill.

Coles: Gules, a cheveron between three Leopards heads arg.

Symes: Asure, three scollop shells in pale or.

Hill: Gules, a cheveron ingrailed ermin betw. 3 garbs or.

ORCHARD.

Which surely in my opinion well brookes the name, for it is sceated in a very fertile soyle for fruite; and the whole Countrey thereabouts seems to be orchards, insomuch that all the hedgerowes and pasture groundes are full fraught with fruite trees of all sorts fittinge to eat and make cider of. This place gave the sirname of Orchard unto the owners of it, whoe injoyed it before the date¹ of evidence untill Henry the fifth² his time; when William Orchard by the daughter and coheire of Sir Thomas Trevitt left Richard a childe who soone followed his father without issue, and 3 daughters heires to their brother, married to Cary of Lockington, Butler and Walter Portman³ whose predecessors continued long thereabouts, and one of them namely William Portman⁴ who had married an heire of Crosse gave lands to the Priory of Taunton. The Portmans upon this match removed to Orchard where they have ever sithence flourished in greate esteeme, especially sithence Sir William Portman greate-grandfather to Baronet Portman that now ownes it was Lord Cheife Justice of England. Orchard shewes a large faire house well befitting the possessions of the owners, neighboured with a parke and all other delights fitting such a place.

Orchard: Asure a cheveron arg. betw. 3 peares or; a coate in my mind very sutable to the name and place.

Trivitt: Arg. 3 trivetts sables.

Cary: Arg. on a bend sab. 3 roses arg.

Butler: . . .

Portman: Or. a flower de luce asure.

Cross: Asure 3 cross tows or.

The large fair house has utterly vanished, and only a few venerable trees, which may well have been standing when this account was written, show that a gentleman's seat once stood here.

¹ ex cart. antiq.

² Escaet. 14 E. 4.

³ Escat. 8 H. 5.

⁴ Inquisit. de quo ad damn. 8 H. 4.

Having brought this braunch into the River, it bids farewell to Taunton and runs on through divers rich meadows and pastures to

CREECH.

Which was one of the three Mannors that the Earle Moriton gave unto the Priory of Montecute, whose it continued untill the dissolution. Now it gives habitacon to the Cuffes whose new house is the greatest ornament of it.

Cuff: Arg., on a bend indented sab. betweene 2 cotises asure charged with besants, 3 flowerdelices or.

CURRY.

Called North Curry, which name it gives to the hundred wherein it stands. A large Mannor this is belonging to the Deane and Chapter of Wells ever sithence their Bishopp Reigenald in Henry the seconds time gave it them. Somewhat above this which nevertheles I will take in my way is sceated

CATHANGER.

The possession in King Richard the firsts time of William Wrotham whose sonne Richard¹ dying issulesse, one of his sisters and heires brought it by marriage unto Galfride de Scoland,² after whom Richard his sonne, Franco,³ Henry,⁴ and another Franco de Scoland, successively injoyed it. Long after, by what conveyance is not knowne to me, it became the possession of John Walshe, who by his first wife Jone Brooke had John Walshe cheife Justice of the Common Pleas who built the house now standing at Cathanger and left it with his estate unto his only daughter Jone the wife of Edmund Seymer eldest sonne though not heire unto Edward after created Earle of Hertford and Duke of Somersett. His successors not longe since sold Cathanger unto Mr. Pine a judicious lawyer whose sonne now ownes it. The foresaid John Walshe as I have read after he had burried his first wife became a preist, but it seems was not able to keep his vow, married the second wife unto whose children neverthelesse was by the Heraulds of those

¹ Escact. 35 H. 3.

² Ibid. 16 E. 1.

³ Ibid. 13 E. 3.

⁴ Ibid. 41 E. 3.

times assigned that border to shewe their birth you shall find following.

Scoland: . . .

Walshe: Asure, 6 mullets or 3, 2, 1.

Walshe: The same within a border gobonne or and gules.

Seymer: Gules two wings or.

Pyne: Asure a fess betweene three scolloppe or.

This is in the parish of Fivehead, and from the front gate a good view of North Curry and the moors can be obtained. There is but little left of the old house but the gatehouse, now looking somewhat lost in the middle of the farmyard. Cathanger, temp. Doomsday, belonged to Muchelney Abbey, who seem to have exchanged it for Fivehead. The cartulary (S.R.S. XIV.) contains a number of deeds relating to the two manors. Collinson supplies the missing links in the descent of the manor. Eleanor, daughter and heiress of Francis Scoland, d. 3 Hen. V., married Thomas Montacute, who died 28 Hen. VI., leaving for his heirs two granddaughters: Mary, wife of Thomas Aylworth, and Elizabeth, wife of Sir Edward Broke, and after his death of Robert Palmer. In 1496 John Walsh possessed Cathanger, probably in right of his wife, a daughter of Sir Edward Broke. This John had a son of the same name, who rose to the dignity of Justice of the Common Pleas. On his death in 1572, his nephew, George Salisbury, proved his will. But there does not seem to be any ground for Collinson's statement that the nephew succeeded to Cathanger in disherison of the judge's only child Joan, wife of Sir Edward Seymour, and her children. Cathanger is not mentioned by name in the will, but its provisions certainly do not imply that the Seymours were out of favour, and there may well have been good reason for not making Edward Seymour executor. The judicious lawyer who purchased it was Hugh Pyne, d. 1628.

The river Tone passing herehence through deep and dirty moores, in the winter time most covered over with water, but at Summer affording greate plenty of grass, at Antony joyneth itselfe to Parrett which having before though the lesse River gotten the superiority over Ivell, continews his prerogative over this, robbing both of them of their names. The Parrett is the second maine branch of that greate confluence which erstwhile wee mett withall at Steertpoynt. I must intreat you now to accompany me to the farthest south part of this sheire; nay and I thinke a little beyond the bounds of this Countie to find the head of Parrett, for I thinke it ariseth out of the hills in Dorsetshire and soone passeth betweene two parishes named from it according to the scituacōn

South } Parrett.
North }

The first of those is in Dorsetshire, but, because as I remember I have overpassed it there, I will only lett you knowe that from the knightly family of Malbancke it came by an heire generall unto the heiress of Clifton; and the sisters and heires of Sir John Horsey brought it unto the Moones and Arnolds whoe still enjoy it; yet at this place Henry Lord Daubeney in King Henry the seaventh his time built an house for his pleasure which his sonne Henry Earle of Bridgewater (as he did divers others) sold and now it is the dwelling of Mr. Gibbs.

North Parrett from Ashleigh and Rivell from whom you may find more elsewhere, came by marriage unto Henry de Urtiaco¹ or Lortye a great Baron whose second sonne Walter enjoyed it of his mothers guift, which both himself and his wife Matilda² increased by purchasing divers freeholds within it. Theis purchased lands she in her widowhood by her deed dated the first of Edward the second gave in francke marriage with her daughter Sabina unto John de Middleton and his heires by her, to which deede is affixed her seale plainly showing a chese and label of five points by which I guesse her to have been of the family de Fortibus. Walter Middleton grandchild of this John by his sonne Walter sold his landes in Parrett unto John Sprawe. Neverthelessse the posterity of them remayned at Coker untill our grandfathers daies. The mannor of Parrett reverted back unto the elder house for want of issue male, as not long after there whole estate did unto the Crowne, and is now owned by the Earle of Hertford.

Malbanke: Barry wavy arg. and gules, a saltier or.

Horsey: Asure 3 horsheads coped or bridled [gu.].

Moone: Or a crosse engrailed sab.

Arnold: Gules a cheveron ermin betweene 3 pheons or.

Dawbeny: Gules five fussels in fesse arg.

Gibbs: Arg. 3 Catts passant in pale sab., a border ermin.

The account in the text, together with the two papers contributed by Mr. Batten and myself to 'Som. Arch. Proc.' Vols. XLI. and XLII., supplement each other. The Domesday owner was Bretel St. Clare. Sabina de Urtiaco, daughter of Richard Rivel, after the death of her husband Henry, seems to have enfeofed her younger son John in North Perrot, which, soon after the date of Kirby's Quest, he transferred to his brother, Walter of Swelle. The marriage of Sabina with John de Middleton is a new discovery, and is confirmed by the number of deeds relating to the interests of the Middletons,

¹ Escaet. 33 E. 1.

² ex cart. Johis. Sidenham ar.

John, Walter, and Walter ('Proc.,' XLI. ii. 88-89). The manor descended from Walter de Urtiaco, d. 34 Ed. I., to his son Henry, who by his wife Emma left a son John. He died 12 Hen. IV. (Athelney Cartulary, No. 225) seised of Perrot and Swelle. This latter was conveyed by his widow to her second husband, William Newton, whose descendants held it for many generations. By a fine levied 11 Ed. III., No. 34, Swelle and Perrot had been settled upon Henry and his heirs male, and in default on Sir Thomas West for life, with remainder to the Blount family; and apparently by this settlement Perrot came to Reginald West, Lord Lawarre. Succeeding owners were Byconyll, Daubeney, and Seymour, in Gerard's day Lord Hertford.

Ashleighe: . . .

Rivell: Ermin a cheveron gules, a border ingrayled sab.

Lorty: Asure a plaine crosse or.

Middleton: ex sigillo tpe. Rich. 2, a cheveron betweene 3 rundles.

Parrett bending his course northward leaveth on the west a pritty way distant of it

CREW- -CORNE ALS. -KERNE.

A markett towne on the Saturday reasonable large and indifferent well built. I have not read any mencon of this place untill since the Norman Conquest, and yet I am of opinion that it is very auncient, and was heretofore more eminent. The reasons I shall alleadge for it are divers; first the name being compounded of two Brittish words—Crucke and hill which wee retaine untill this daye, but altered unto Creech by reason the Saxons used ch. instead of k, that letter being allowed, wee come within theire alphabett; and kerne stones, and on the declining of a stony hill indeed is the towne sccated. Moreover I have observed that many neighbouring villages retaine Brittish names untill this day, as Henton, Henley, Crackett, &c.; also very neere this towne passeth the Roman Consular way called the foss way leading from Ilchester unto Dorchester, and on theis waies there were also sccated the places of greatest eminence.

For a further confirmacon there have bin sometimes in digging found Roman coynes, one of which being faire and perfect my very good freind John Meryfeild Esquire who lives heere imparted unto me. This was of Trajan y^e Emperer who began to rule in the yeare of grace 99, and under whom the third persecucion against the Christians brake out, but the

reverse of this coyne agrees not with another of his which shewes an high bridge chayned and circumscribed S.P.Q.R. optimo principi ; in place of which this hath an angell with the wings open holding a targett on which you may see plainly S.P.Q.R. The same Mr. Meryfeild hath told that where as the foss way passeth in opening the earth to make ditches as for other use, they find not only a greate number of mens bones, but childrens. Theis I conceive were the bones of such as in the Brittaines and part of the Saxons times lived there, for then it was accompted to bury unlawfull within the walls of Citties or townes,¹ it being forbidden by the Roman Law of the twelve tables, wherfor they chose places to bury in neere the greatest waies, that both the graves and tombes might put the passengers in mind of their mortality. Such a place as this was it that the man possessed with the Devill kept as you may read in S. Markes gospell ; that the Jewes used it is plaine by their Aceldama, and Christ his owne sepulcher mentioned by all the Evangelists ; but from this I can only gather by the greate multitude of bones here found, it was in those times here frequently inhabited, and a populous place ; but to come neerer home tradicõns tell us of a Castle neere this towne called Croft Castle, which being vanished there rose up in the roome a mansion house for the lords of it which also hath given place unto time. I am sure it was the possession of the ancient Earles of Devon sirnamed de Ripariis or Rudeurs until William called de Vernon from a Towne in Normandy gave in francke marriage with Mary his daughter unto Sir Robert de Courtney who not longe after proved heire unto the Earldome of Devon ; which the Courtneys enjoyed many ages, and with it this place untill Thomas Courtney Earle of Devon lost it by attaintor the first of Edward the fourth ; because he stood constant to his lawful Prince King Henry the sixth. Neverthelesse a part of Crukern was after by King Henry the seaventh restored unto Sir William Knevett and Sir Hughe Conwey, who had married the sisters and heires generall of this Thomas Earle of Devon. But when as after this Earldome of Devon reflowered in Edward Courtney heire male of this family, and his greate grand children Edward Courtney Marquisse of Exon departed without issue, Crukerne with other Lands fell to the Vivians, Arundells, Moones,² and Trelounays, descended from the soure sisters of Edward Earle of Devon

¹ Lambert perambul. Kent, p. 307.

² The MSS. has Moore, a clerical error.

aforesaid, and sithence by alienacons is come part to the Lord Pawlett and part to others.

This towne hathe to commend it a fayre sightly Church built in a crosse with a bell tower riseing up in the middle ; it was heretofore a quarter Collegiate Church, founded I presume by the Earle of Devon, and hath untill this day the use or rights of a Collegiate or Cathedrall Church. In it, in former time was a Chauntrey¹ built and endowed by Agnes de Monceaux, who was also founder of another Chantery in a new Chappell by her built. In the Churchyard at the West end of this Church stands a little Cell in which an Anchoresse was imured, and not farr from it another Cell for an Hermite ; but as worthy remembering as either of theis is an ancient free schoole founded by [John] Combe, whose predecessors gentlemen of good note formerly tooke that name from Combe a place lying within the same parish ; neither will I overpasse the pious worke of Mr. Chubb of Dorcester, who in our time built at the West end of this towne a fine Almes house for poore people ; I wish others of ability would follow soe good a president.

To conclude this towne gave name to a right ancient family, who were descended from Walter de Widcombe of Widcombe in Mertokey, but by living here gott the sirname of Crewkerne and florished at Childhey not farr distant ; where by the heire of Childhey they placed themselves untill our fathers daies as you may read more there.

As regards the etymology of Crewkerne, it may be sufficient to note that Collinson with equal confidence derives it from two words meaning the cottage of the cross. Its history is too large to be touched upon in a footnote.

On the southside of Crewkerne finely sceated on a hill overlooking the towne is

HENLEY.

The name intimates as much as the old lease or ground, for hean with our old ancestors the Brittaines signified old. This gave name to the auncient owners² of it ; after it was the sceate of William Mountague younger sonne to Robert Mountague of Slowe Court in this Countie who was second sonne to John Mountacute knt. by Mounthermer's heire, and brother to John

¹ Inquisit. de quo ad damn. 2 E. 2 et 7 E. 2.

² 20 E. 1 ; 1 R. 3.

Mountacute Earle of Sarum his uncle. I remember I have seene in our Lady Church in Bridport the tomb of Anne the wife unto this William Mountacute with this inscription :

Heere lyeth Anne late wife to William Mountague Esquire of Henly, daughter to the Baron of Hilton in the diocese of Durham who dyed Anno 1480.

On this tombe are the Armes of Montacute vizt. Arg. three fussels in fesse gules betw. three ogresses which he tooke for a difference for whereas the Earle of Sarum gave three redd fussels in silver, this mans grandfather added a black border, his father three ogresses, this man a mullett for differences. On the tombe also were his wives armes which were : asure two barrs arg. the coate of Venables Baron of Hilton ; not long after, though this man left a sonne of full yeares when he dyed, Henly came to the Wikes of ancient gentry as you may find ; theis lived at it untill our times when by purchase it fell to a man of the same.

There were at least three junior branches of the family of Montacute in this county, living at Sutton Montis, Slow Court in Stoke St. Gregory, and Henley. The family pedigree in the Visitation of 1573 makes Robert son of Sir John and Margaret Monthermer of Sutton Montis, and Richard of Slow, whose son Robert was probably (to judge by the dates) the father of William of Henley, as in the text. The Wykes seem by their arms to belong to the family settled at Nynhead, but the alliance does not appear in the Visitation of 1573. Collinson treats of Henley under Seaborough (II. 172), and records that, temp. Queen Mary, Mr. Weekes instigated two of his labourers to drive off a neighbouring squire for poaching on his lands ; a struggle took place, during which the unfortunate man was killed, and in consequence Mr. Weekes and the labourers were executed at Crewkerne.

But before I goe too farre I will give you a Catalogue of the Coates belonging to such as I have already menconed.

The elder Earles of Devon : or, a Lyon rampant asure.

Courtney Earles of Devon : or, 3 torteauxes, a labell asure.

Knevett : arg., a bend with a border both ingrailed sa.

Conwey : sab. on a bend arg. cotised ermin a rose betweene three annuletts gules.

Vivian : arg. a Lyon rampant reversed gules.

Arundell : sab., 6 swallows arg. 3, 2 and 1 ; a difference.

Moone : or a crosse ingrailed sab.

Trelawney : arg. a cheveron sab. betweene 3 bay leaves vert.

Monceaux : gules a manche vare with a hand issuing out of it. This was taken from the Lord Moyngnes Coate of Dunster whose neighbour he was at Awerne Monceaux.

Merefeild : asure on a fesse ingrailed arg. cotised or betweene three cressantes of the second 3 roses gules.

Combe : ermins three Lyons passant gardant in pale gules.

Widcombe : ermin two barrs wave gules, a bendlett gobone or and asure.

Crewkerne : arg. on a cheveron gules betweene three hunting hornes sab., three crossletts arg., theis on the side of the cheveron transposed the long way.

Montacute Earle of Sarum : arg. 3 fussels in fesse gules.

Sir John Montacute : the same with a border sab.

Robert Montacute of Slow : arg. 3 fussels in fesse gules betweene 3 ogresses.

William Montacute of Henly : as his brother Robert, with a mullet for a difference.

Wikes : arg. a Cheveron gules betw. 3 crosse molins sab.

Henly : asure, a lyon rampant arg. crowned gules, a border arg. charged with 8 torteauxes.

Beyond Crewkerne those stony hills which give it name rise to a great height ; the most eminent having a becon on it, is called St. Rane hill, but both the Saint and reason I assure you are unknowne to me. On the furthest part of it called white downe is yearly kept a greate faire in Whitsonday weeke, whence I believe it gott the name of White. From this place you have a very pleasant prospect even into Dorsett and Devonshires.

These hills form a tableland about four miles from east to west, and about two from north to south, of a height varying from 500 to 750 feet above the sea level. On the north the line is pretty regular and the descent precipitous, but on the south the plateau is cut into by the deep combe, in which is Cricket Park. St. Rayne and Whitedowne have been treated of by Dr. Norris in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXXVII. ii. 40 *seq.* As our author says, the view from Whitedowne is magnificent, taking in both the Bristol and English channels. The places immediately following are in the valley of the Axe.

And under them lye some places that I cannot have a more convenient place to take notice of than heere. Theis are, Wayford and Clopton, members of Crewkerne ; Cruckett, Ley,

Winsam, and Chard ; of each of theis I shall write something and then return to my guide the River.

WAYFORD.

Had in foregoing ages Lords of the same name ; for Edward the seconds surway¹ tells mee it was then owned by Scolastica de Wayford ; her heire was married to William de Blandford whose grandfather Thomas by his sonne William left one only daughter Elinor married to Robert Pauncefoot of Compton Pauncefoot in this Countie. But his only daughter Eliza brought it in marriage right unto her husband James Dawbuny second brother to Giles Lord Dawbuny whose posterity owne it at this time, and being allured with the pleasantnes of y^e place have built a faire house upon it for their habitacōn well accomodated with gardens and orchards. Theis Dawbunys that I may note soe much by the way were heires male unto Henry Dawbuny Earle of Bridgewater but he otherwise disposing of his land theis were content to lett the title fall.

Wayford : . . .

Blandford : a fesse ingrailed betw. 3 unicornes heads
coped (out of a seale the writing dated 29 E. 3.

Pouncefoot : per fesse asure and gules 3 flowerdelices or.

Dawbuny : gules 5 fussels in fesse arg., a cressant.

In the descent of the manor, I think that grandfather must be a slip for 'grandson'; for as Scolastica de Wayford was living in 1316, it is not possible for her granddaughter Eleanor to have been the wife of Robert Pauncefoot, whose elder brother died in 1485. Robert, of the family of that name at Compton Pauncefoot, was of West Amesbury in Wilts. See account of house with illustration in 'Proc.,' XXXVII. i. 31.

CLOPTON.

The next place, as the former, gave both name and habitacōn to the Cloptons an ancient family of knights, who flourished heere untill King Henry the sixth, when it ended in Sir William Clopton, for he had only one daughter Agnes married unto Roger Harwell descended from a brother of John Harwell Bishopp of Bathe and Wells in Edward the thirds time ; whose

¹ noia villaru. 9 E. 2.

posterity remained untill Henry the eights time,¹ when Thomas Harwell dying issueless his four sisters entred his inheritance, who were married to Ashton, Clifford, Leighton, and Rawley. But in the meane time Clopton, by what conveyance I knowe not, fell to the Bonvilles of Dillington who still remaine at it, being the only branche now left, as farr as I can find, of the right auncient and honorable family of Bonvills of soe greate eminencie in former ages in theis partes.

Clopton: arg. a cheveron betw. 3 eglets asure; ex sigillo 31 E. 3.

Harwell: arg. on a fess nebule sab. three hares heads or.

Bonvill: sab. six mulletts arg., 3, 2 and 1.

It is likely that Bonville acquired Clopton by marriage, as John Bonville of Dillington, d. 1485, married Alice, daughter and heir of Richard Clopton (Visit. 1591).

CRICKETT.

Called from the dedicacon of the Church Crickett Thomas, more aunciently Crackett, gave name to the auncient owners of it; of which Sir Thomas de Crackett, as the Leiger booke of Abbotsbury tells me, married with Jane daughter and coheire of Phillipp de Solmavill of Newton Solmaville in this County by Beatrix his wife daughter of Reynold Lord of Wey in Dorsett, from whom one of those many Ways lyinge together is untill this day called Crickett Wey for Crackett Wey.

Sir Thomas was father of William de Crackett and he of Michael the last that I can find of that name. Sithence Crickett hath suffered some change and is now the chief sceate of Prestons of good respect ever sithence their ancestor Stephen Preston² became Lord of it.

Cruckett: . . .

Preston: asure, 10 besants 4, 3, 2, and 1, on a cheife arg. two Lyons counterpassant sab.

For the family of this name, see text and notes on Newton Sormaville, near Yeovil.

LEY.

In our way, shewes a faire house finely sceated built by the now owner of it Mr. Henley. Aunciently it belonged to those

¹ 4 H. 8.

² Escaet 14 E. 4.

Montacutes of Slow and Sutton Montacute ; an heir generall of whom brought it to John Duport of Leicestershire whose successor sold it.

Montacute : arg. 3 fussels in fesse gules betweene 3 ogresses.

Duport : sab. 3 Lyons rampant arg.

Henly : asure, a Lyon rampant arg. crowned gules, within a border of the second charged with three torteauxes.

The house is still standing, and inhabited by a Henley. Gerard's account would confirm the view that it was built in 1611, the date on the lead spouts, and not in the reign of Elizabeth ('Proc.,' XXVIII. i. 54).

WINSHAM.

Is the parish church of Ley though sceated a good way from it. This Mannor I believe from the first institucon of a Bishopps Sea at Wells, hath belonged to that Church. But during the raigne of King Edward the Confessor, Herauld his wives brother, after for a short time King of England, soe bestirred himselfe in spoyling that Church, that when as Giso the Bishopp returned from Rome (whither he was sent by the King as a Legate and in his absence chose Bishopp of Wells) but found neither Channon in the Church nor Mannor belonging to it. In which largesse of Herauld's Winsham fell unto one Ælsi ; but when as William the Conqueror prooved more propitious unto the good Bishopp, he forced Ælsi to restore back Winsham unto the Church who owne it till this day ; and in the same manner served many others as in his Historie you may read it large written by the laborious Francis Goodwin now Bishopp of Worcester.

Harold's behaviour have been satisfactorily explained by the late J. R. Green in a paper contributed to the 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XII. ii. 148. Francis Godwin was not Bishop of Worcester, but of Hereford, 1617-34.

This place stands within a very little of

CHARD.

A proper markett towne owned by the same Lord, sceated upon the confines both of Devon and Dorsetts shires, and yett many times the assisses for this Countie have bin held at it ; it lying soe just in the Judges way, by meanes whereof they have much amended their buildings. Adjoyning to the Church of

Chard which is with the least, were heretofore two brotherhoods,¹ the one of our Lady which consisted of a Custos and certaine brethren, the other was the fraternity of St. Katherine.

More of this place I knowe not, saveing that at the end of it stands an handsome house the inheritance of Mr. Symms who many times makes it his dwelling.

To this account and that of Collinson may be added 'Notes on Chard,' by E. Green, F.S.A. ('Proc.,' XXVIII. ii. 28). In the main street there are still some old houses, one of which may have been that of Mr. Symms, or Symes.

Thus have I ended my digression, and will once againe betake myselfe backe unto the River Parrett my guide, which will soone bring me to

MERIETT.

Which I have sometimes thought to take that name as standing on the Meere or bound of Ruche forest, which here had a gate or passage into it. Howsoever it tooke the name, I am sure it gave it to an ancient and noble family of knights, who held it even from the Conquest time as following will shewe.

Nicholaus de Meriett tenet Meriott de Rege in capt. &c. de Conquestu Anglie &c.²

The successors of this Nicholas florished in greate esteeme; and not long after braunched into two families, for in a deede bearing date the first of Edward the second I have found mention of Sir John de Meriett Lord of Merriett, and Sir John de Meriett Lord of Hestercombe. The first of theis added honnour unto his house by joyninge in marriage with Elionor daughter to John Lord Bewchampe of Hach sister and coheire to the last Lord John Bewchamp, but his sonne Sir John Merriett left only one daughter Eliza married to Uria Seymer of Birdport whose issue long since fayled. As for this Meriett the last Sir John Meriett but one sold it to Sir Guy de Bryan, and soone after it became the possession of y^e Bonvilles. Now for their Armes.

Meriett of Meriett gave: barry of six or and sab.

Meriett of Hestercombe added: a bend ermin for a difference.

¹ Inquisitio 19 R. 2.

² Liber feod. in Scaccario, et escaet 47 H. 3.

And a third Merritt differenced the first Coate with a blacke Canton, on it a flowerdeluce of gold.

For this family, see a learned paper by B. W. Greenfield, F.S.A., 'Proc.,' XXVIII. ii. 99.

At this place the River receaveth two rills in one streame, which joyning themselves at Bowbridge, here joyne to Parrett. The first cometh from

PEN DOMER.

The first name it takes as sceaated on a hill ; the second from the old owners, a family in their times both ancient and eminent ; for in Henry the first's time Raphe de Domer¹ was owner of it, who had Henry father of William de Domer, that in King John's time impleeded his uncle Robert for lands in this place.² William was father of Sir Thomas de Dumer, he of Phillipp, and he of Sir John de Dumer, to whose deed dated the tenth of Edward the second at this Pen I have seene his Scale of Armes affixed vizt. a Cressant betweene six billets, the Cullors are or in an asure shield ; but Sir Edmund de Domer this man's grand-child by his sonne John whether it were for a difference whilst his father lived or for what other cause I knowe not, gave the Armes above named on a bend, as in divers of his seales I have seene it, but his son Edmund the last of this family reassumed the ancient Armes. This man dyed issuelless in King Henry the fift's time, and then Pen came by marriage unto John Sturton brother of William first Lord Sturton who for his third wife married the heire of Domer, having bin widdower of two wives inheritrices before, and by them having onlie daughters. One of his coheires brought Pen and other lands unto her husband Sir William Dawbuny whose sonne Giles Lord Dawbuny Chamberlaine to King Henry the seaventh began to add new buildings unto Domer's house. The land his sonne Henry Earle of Bridgwater alienated unto his cozen Bevin, and his heire brought it to the Keymers verie lately owners of it.

Very neere the Mansion house being surly the greatest part of the parish, stands a little Church where I found in an Arch of the wall (not ill wrought for those times) a tombe of one of the Domers. His effigies armed all in male lyes low in the ground, crosse legged and yet I assure myselfe long since the Conquest ;

¹ plita 15 John.

² ex cart. in custod. Joh. Sidenham ar.

his sheild on his Arme hath still remaineing depicted on it the Coate first spoken of vizt. asure a Cressant betweene six billets or.

Dumer : asure a cressant betweene six billets or.

Sir Edmund Dumer : arg. on a bend the aforesaid Coate.

Sturton : sab. on a bend or betw. six wells propper a mullett.

Sturton parson of Pen, who as I have seene in the East window, new builded the Chancell ; the same coate within a border ingrailed arg.

Dawbuny : gules five fussels in fesse arg.

Bevin : arg. a cheveron betweene three martletts gules, a chief cheque or and gules.

Keymer : arg. three wolves passant in pale asure, a border sab. bezanted.

Vol. XVII. of the 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' contains a very full history of the family of Dumer, with an illustration of the tomb in the church, by T. Bond, of Tyneham. William Keymer sold the manor to Lord Poulet in 1630, which accounts for the 'verie lately' in the text. Apparently in Gerard's time a cross-legged attitude in an effigy denoted a man who had 'come in with the Conqueror,' quite as likely as that it marked a Crusader, which is still believed by many.

HASELBER.

Is the next place this brooke runs unto ; which takes name from Hasells and an hill, for berye, berghe, and brorgh with the Saxons our ancestors intimated an hill or high heap of earth, and of the same name this once had owners, though unfortunate enoughe as the following inquisition will show :

Juratores dicunt quod quid Richardus de Haselberge ten't maneriū de Haselberge de domino Rege Johanne in cap'te et tempore guerre fuit contra Regem et fecit felloniam propter quam decollet' fuit et suspensus per pedes subtus para' [? parcam] de Scirborne ; dicunt etiam quod Johannes de Mariscall tunc custos castelli de Syreborne cepit predictū maneriū in manu Dñi Regis ; post modum Rex contulit predicto Johanni quicquid habeat in dict' manerio tempore ejusdem werre sed utrum habeat Cartam inde de Rege predicto necne ignorant ; dicunt etiam quod Willielmus le Mariscall filius et heres dicti Johannis ingrediebat predictum manerium post mortem dicti Johannis Patris sui &c.¹

¹ Inquisitio capta 45 H. 3.

Not long after King Edward the first gave Heselber unto Alane Plugnett¹ of Plugnett Baron of Kilpeck in Herefordshire by guifte of his uncle Walter Wallrond² whose mother Isabell was daughter³ and coheire of Hugh of Kilpecke a Baron and Lord of Kilpeck Castle in Herefordshire, and Champion unto the Kings of this land soone after the Norman conquest; which noble place by this Hughe's eldest daughter came by marriage unto Marmions and from them descended unto the Dimocks who still claime it.

But I must returne unto the second daughter and will think it worth my labour to transcribe unto you in its owne words forme and language what I found in an old parchment which came accidentally to my hands of the owners of this Haselberge.

In this nowe followinge you may observe the power of a virgin vowe.

Willielmus Walrond duxit in uxorem Isabellam de quibus venierunt—Willielmus, de quo veniebat Johannes qui fuit fatuus; Robertus obiit sine herede; Alicia de qua venerunt Alanus Alanus et Johāna; Alicia secunda fuit Abbatissa de Romsey et obiit professa et sine herede de se que tamen habuit exitum vizt. Richardum de la bere, et de eodem Richardo veniebat alius Richardus de Thorodon, de quo Richardo venit Thomas filius ejus, et de eodem Thoma veniebat Johannes et de quo quidem Johannes exierunt has filias vizt.

Willielmus Plunckett habuit exitum Henricum Plunckett. Edmundus Plunckett habuit exitum Alanū Plucknett; de illo Alano venit Alanus secundus et de secundo Alano tertius Alanus et Johāna.

Willielmus filius Willielmi Walround supradicti habuit exitum Johannem qui fuit fatuus ut predictum est, et post mortem dñi Willielmi patris sui omnia terra et tenementa jure hereditario eidem Johanni descendebant, et causa fatuitatis ipsius Johannis omnia predicta terra et tenementa seisita fuerunt in manu domini Edwardi Regis filii Edwardi Regis secundi anno Regni sui tertio; post cujus mortem predicti Johannis inventum fuit per diversas Inquisitiones Coram Escaetor' domini Regis in diversis comitatibus quod Alanus Plunckett filius Alani Plunckett secundi fuit propinquior heres ejusdem Johannis defuncti qui quidem Alanus pro diversis terris et tenement' predicto domino Regi homagium suum fecit.

¹ escaet 27 E. 1.

² 1 E. 1.

³ Camden 'filius.'

Robertus Walround frater dicti Willielmi Walround decessit sine herede de se ut predictum est, et obiit quinto Kallend' Februarii anno primo Regis Edwardi primi; Cujus Corpus predicti Roberti humatū est in medium Chori Abathie de Tarant in Comitatu Dorset., et Matilda uxor ejus jacet in eodem loco juxta eum.

Alicia Walround soror predictorum Roberti Alicie et Willielmi fuit monialis in Abbathia de Romsey professa et Abbatissa in eodem loco diu pmansit et obiit sine herede de se; ejus corpus humatum est in australi parte Chori ejusdem Abathie coram Altare scē Anne matris Marie.

Willielmus Pluncknett habuit exitum Henricum Pluncknett de quo dominus Henricus Rex cepit homagium prout continetur in scaccario domini Regis. Edmundus Pluncknett Pater Alani supradicti obiit nono Kallend' Februarii Anno [] cujus corpus humatum est in prioratu de Kilpecke in ecclesia sancti Davidis et circa ejus tumba scribitur:

'Hic jacet Edmundus de Pluncknett.'

Alanus vero dicti Edmundi filius duxit in uxorem suam Aliciam sororem predictor' Willielmi Roberti et Alicie et amitam predicti Johannis qui fuit fatuus, et idem Alanus obiit undecimo die mensis Junii cujus corpus, &c.

Secundus Alanus filius predicti Alani nepos et heres Roberti Walround predicti, post mortem ejusdem Roberti homagium suum fecit domino Regi Anno primo Regis Edwardi primi, qui duxit in uxorem suam quand' Johānam Wake filiam Andree Wake militis qui quidem Alanus obiit secundo die mensis Decembri Anno Domini 1298; Cujus corpus humatum est in Herefordia in Ecclesia fratrum minorum in medio Chori ibm.

Tertius Alanus filius secundi Alani supradicti post mortem patris sui homagium suum fecit domino Regi pro terris et tenementis in quibus pater suus obiit seisisus, et idem Alanus dotavit Johānam matrem suam supradictam in diversis maneriis cujus [*sic*] data est anno Regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici vicesimo septimo ut patet per Indenturas inter eosdem confratres et idem Alanus duxit quondam Sibillam in uxorem suam, et obiit dictus Alanus secundo die mensis Septembris Anno domini 1325.

Johanna filia Alani secundi et soror et heres domini Alani tertii cepit in virum suum Henricum le Bohun, et post mortem predicti Alani fratris sui homagium suum fecit domino Edwardo

Regi secundo Anno regni sui decimo nono pro terris et tenementis in quibus Alanus frater suus obiit seisis; que quidem Johanna dotavit Sibillam uxorem fratris sui in medietate manerii de Haselberg in recompensacione dotis sue ibm ac alibi contingentis, et obiit die conceptionis beate Marie virginis Anno Domini 1327; cujus corpus predictae Johanne in Ecclesia Cathedrali sancti Ethelberti Hereford' sepelitur, et jacet in boreali parte ejusdem Ecclesie juxta tumbam sci Thome confessoris ibm.

Predicta vero Sibilla uxor ipsius dom' Alani tertii post mortem ipsius Alani cepit in virum suum Henricum Penhrygg que Sibilla obiit anno ab incarnatione Domini 1353, cujus corpus jacet humatum in Ecclesia sancti Michaelis de Haselber in pariete inter Cancellam et Celluta' sancti Wolfrici ex parte boreali; et postea venit Delaber dicens se esse propinquiorem heredem predictor' Alani et Johanne.

Thus much out of my old parchment and I think enough if not too much of this place; yet before I part hence I will shew you that the elder Lords had neere the Church a mansion house now wholly ruined, in place of which a farme house is risen up; that they will tell you many strange stories of St. Wolfricke, whose Cell remaines unto this daye on the Northside the Chauncell which I had rather you should inquire of the Inhabitants than looke for here. And lastly, that the family of Delabeere however they came out of a Nunn's lapp, and parted with a great part of their estate unto heires generall, yet they florished long in greate goodnote in Herefordshire, and were feodaries to the Bohuns, heretofore Earles of Hereford as by their Armes following plainly appeares.

Haselbergh: . . .

Mariscall: or a ferdemolin gules.

Pluncknett: ermin a bend fussell gules. From this family certainly are descended those Pluncknetts now called Pluncketts Barons of Donsary and Lowthe in Ireland, whereof the first gives: sa. a bend fussell arg.; the other the same adding a white castle in chief.

Walleron: asure 3 barrs arg., on a chief or a lion passant gardant gules; taken it seemes in imitation of his neighbor and maybe lord, the Lord Tregose.

Kilpecke: arg. a sword in ye scabbard erected in pale sab.

his hilts or. This certainly appertayned to his Championship, for the judicious Herauld Glover Somersett whom I dare trust settts for his Coate : arg. a fesse gules.

Marmion : vairé a fesse gules.

Dimmocke : sab. 2 Lyons passant arg. crouned or.

Bohun : or a plaine Crest asure. [No doubt error for cross.]

Delabeere : asure a bend arg. cotised betweene six martlets or ; which coate seems to be taken from those Bohuns Earles of Hereford who gave the same feild bend and Cotises betweene six golden Lyons rampant.

In his account of Preston Plucknett in 'Historical Notes on South Somerset,' Mr. Batten traces the descent of Haselbury Plucknett, which had the dignity of a Barony, from the reign of Stephen down to the third and last Alan Plucknett. Collinson carries on the history down to the forfeiture of the manor by Thomas, son of Richard de la Bere, in the reign of Edward III. By Gerard's time it had probably passed to the family of Portman, still owners of it. Haselbury local history is enlivened by reminiscences of St. Wulfric, hermit and prophet ; and also by the behaviour recorded of Sir Alan Plucknett II., who, on a certain occasion, compelled the rural dean to swallow his citation, parchment, seals and all ('Register of Bishop Droghda,' S.R.S., I. pp. 88, 89).

Hence passeth this brooke to Bowbridge and there meeteth with the other branch which comes downe from

SUTTON BINGHAM.

The cheife sceate of the Bingham, descended from John de Bingham who lived in King Henric the first's tyme, whose successors for the most part of knights degree enjoyed this Sutton untill Henry the sixth his time, when Thomas Bingham last of that name here by Mariane his wife heire generall of Romsey and Bissett left one only daughter Joane with a greate inheritance married unto Thomas Kilway in her right of Rockborne in Hampshire, one of which after sold this Sutton unto the Sidenhams still owners of it.

But I will not overpasse that of this family of Bingham was Robert de Bingham in King Henry the thirds time¹ bishopp of Sarum a greate furtherer of the fabricke of that Cathedrall Church which still remains, which his imediate predecessor

¹ Consecrat. 14 H. 3, Anno 1229.

Richard Poore removed thither from old Sarum, and after twentie yeares labour left unfinished. Of this family also was Robert de Bingham who being brother of Sir William de Bingham of Sutton and nephewe unto Bishopp Robert by his brother Raphe married with Lucy daughter and heire of Robert de Turbervill of Melcombe in Dorsett, whose posterity flourish till this day at that Melcombe called from them Bingham's Melcombe in very good respect. I cannot here lett passe what I have observed concerninge the strange difference of theis two brethren's armories, for whereas Bingham of Sutton as I have [seen] in a multitude of faire seales, in the windows of this Church, and others, gave ermin on a chefe asure 3 Lyons rampant or ; the other brother gave asure a bend gules cotised betweene 6 crosses paty or ; which redd bend time hath since brought to gold and soe they give it at this day.

Bingham : ermin on a chefe asure 3 Lyons rampant or.

Bingham : assure a bend cotised betweene six crosses pate or.

Romsey : arg. a fesse gules, a labell asure.

Bissett : asure ten Bezants 4, 3, 2, and 1.

Kelway : arg. two glasiers crippling Irons in saltier sable betweene four pears proper.

This place is really on a tributary of the Yeo, and should have been entered between Stoford and Barwick. Its history will be found in 'Historical Notes on South Somerset.' Thomas Bingham, by his wife Mary Romsey, had not one but two daughters to survive, the other being Eleanor, wife of Henry Horsey. Sir William Kayleway of Rockborne sold Sutton in 1561 to George Sydenham ; and after the death of his only daughter Elizabeth, widow of Sir Francis Drake, it came to the Sydenhams of Brympton.

From Sutton this Brooke holds on its course betweene

HARDINGTON AND COKER.

For seeing they were both one man's, I will put them both in one place. Theis with the Hundred of Coker were anciently the possession of the Mandevills, whence each place gott the addicon of Mandevill. I am of opinion that theis Mandevills or de magna-villa were of the same stock that the Magnavills Earles of Essex were, and the sooner I am induced to believe it, having scene the seale of Robert de Mandevill affixed to the

deed of an ancient charter¹ long before date having his name in the Circumference, which plainly shewes an Escutcheon quarterly varry and gules, for the cullers after long searche I found in an old booke of Armes; and it is probable were taken in imitacōn of their quarterly or and gules, to which one of them as I remember added a border vare. As for that Esterbucke [Escarbuncle] the Earles of Essex gave, it was a latter addicōn; but if any should question me how I could draw him from this family, seeing the issue male of theis Earles of Essex failed in the second decent I must plead for it a Pleading² which I have seene, and by which I learne that William de Magnavilla sonne of Geoffrey that came in with the Conqueror had besides Galfride de Mandevill his eldest sonne by King Stephen made Earle of Essex, Walter de Mandevill, and Gilbert, which for that Walter dyed issulesse in King Henry the first's time it is very probable was ancestor to that Robert before spoken of. I am sure he was father of William a benefactor to the Abbey of Abbotsbury, and he of Galfrid de Mandevill who as a record in Henry the thirds time tells me held fourteene knights fees and an halfe here and in Dorsetshire which was a Barony³ with an advantage.

This Galfride had John de Mandevill father of a second John that weakened his estate by parting with Mershwood and the Hundred of Whitchurch in Dorsett unto John le Fitzpaine, but his sonne Robert did worse for he was outlawed the 34 of Edward the first and lost almost his whole estate. Nevertheless from the heire generall of some of theis Mandevilles by Belvale and Moygne came hereditarily unto the Sturtons.

As for theis places I meane the Cokers and Hardington, being held of the Earles of Devon, they upon his forfeiture entred them, and either they or their allies injoyed them as long as the Courtneys injoyed the title of Earles of Devon, one of which I doubt not imployed certaine Priests to found a chantry in the church of East Coker, nere whereunto the Lords had a mansion house which (sithence the Courtneys left it) hath suffered divers changes, and is now the dwellinge of Mr. Hellier a Channon of the Cathedrall Church of Exon, who hath not only well repaired the old buildings, but also added new unto them.

¹ chart. in custod' Tho. Lyte arg.

² Plitā in Banco 23 H. 3.

³ Selden accompts a Barony 13 knts. fees and a halfe.

I may not overpasse two houses more in this Coker which though they were owned by feodaries of y^e Earle of Devon, yet were the owners of them men of good note in their time; of which the first tooke the sirname of Coker from the place of his dwelling, of whom I have found mencon amongst old writings¹ of William de Coker witness to a deede of Galfride de Mandeville then Lord of Coker as old I suppose as King Henry the seconds time, Gyrardus de Coker in King Johns time, and Matilde Coker in King Henry the thirds time. This family florished in this Countie untill the heire generall of them Elizabeth was married unto John Seymor ancestor unto the now Earle of Hertford; but from a second braunch the Cokers still remayninge at Mapowder in Dorset are lineally descended; but by a match this house fell unto the Pennies one of which now remaines at it.

Another house I have seene on the West side of Coker which seemes to be much fairer than now it is, and was the dwelling of Hymerford, a family both ancient and worshipfull. Theis remained here from Edward the thirds time untill our grandfathers dayes when an heire generall brought it to an ancestor of Mr. Hambrige who now ownes it.

I had almost forgotten Nashe a little northe of this place, which shewes an ancient gentlemans house owned by the Gaunts, whom by their Armes seeme to claime alliance to those Gaunts formerly Earles of Lincoln, for whereas they gave bary of six or and asure a bend gules, theis gave the same adding three speares heads on a bend arg. for a difference. The heires generall of this family were in our grandfathers daies married unto Hiwis &c.

Below Nashe on the highway side stands a very pritty Chappell called North Coker from y^e scituacon. This of late is both repaired and glassed for the use of the neighbour Inhabitants.

In the geographical scheme of our author, Hardington and the Cokers, East and West, should have been widely separated, as the two latter are on a little brook which flows into the Yeo between Barwick and Newton. Their history, and particularly the descent of the Mandevilles, is given in 'Historical Notes on South Somerset.' The heraldry of that family has been touched upon in 'Som. & Dors. N. & Q.,' IV. 141, 175. It seems very doubtful which of the quarters in the shield should be vaire.

¹ ex cart. in custod. Johannis Lyte Arg.

East Coker was sold by Sir William Courtenay of Powderham in 1591 to Robert Dillon, who sold it to Sir Edward Philipps of Montacute, and his son, Sir Robert, in 1616 to Archdeacon Helyar, 'with the exception of the farm at Nash.' The statement that the Gaunts were ever the owners of this place must be qualified by substituting tenants.

The chapel at Burton in N. Coker was the subject of contention in 1624 between Archdeacon Helyar and the vicar of the parish, who objected to serve the chapel after the stipend had been stopped. It had been beautified and seated at an expense of forty pounds, a large sum for those days.

Between east and west Coker lies

HEWENBER.

The name intimates from the Brittish as much as the old Towne or Burugh, and I remember I have seene mencon in an old writing which my worthy freind Sir John Strangways now Lord of Hewenber showed me, of a certaine Burrow with Burgesses lying amongst theis Cokers called Merifeild. Surely it gave the sirname of Hewenber to Robert de Hewenber who lived in King Henry the seconds time, and whose posterity of the same name injoyed it long after, but freeholders I presume to the Lords of Coker.

For Merifield, see 'Historic Notes,' &c., pp. 166, 167. It is in East Coker. Walter de Hawenebar was a juror in the suit concerning the respective rights and liberties of the church and the Lord of Yeovil in 1219 ('Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXXII, i. 20); and Thomas de Hewenber was a taxpayer in Hardington Marsh in 1327.

Mandeville Comes Essex: quarterly or and gules.

Mandevill: the same within a border wave.

Mandevill: the same with an Escerbuncle sab.

Mandevill of Coker Mandevill: quarterly vare and gules.

Belvale: arg. 10 billettts sab. 4. 3. 2. 1.

Moygne: bary of six or and vert.

Sturton: sab. a bend betweene six fountaines proper.

Courtney Earle of Devon: or 3 torteauxes, a labell asure.

Sir Phillipp, once Lord of this place: the same, cache point of the labell charged with three plates.

Richard Courtney Bishopp of Norwich sonne of Sir Phillipp owner of this place, which from him reverted backe to the Earles of Devon: the firste coate, each point of the labell charged with 3 mitres arg.

Hellier: asure a crosse paty flory ermin betweene 4 mulletts or.

Coker de Coker: arg. on a bend gules 3 Leopards heads or.

Coker: the same within a border ingrayled sab.

Penny: gules 6 flowerdelyces arg. 3. 2. and 1. slipt or.

Himerford: arg. a cheveron betw. 3 duckes sab.

Hambrige: cheque arg. and sa. a bend gules.

Gaunt: barry of six or and asure, on a bend gules 3 speares heads arg.

From theis places the brooke comes to the

CHINOCKS.

Whereof the one called West Chinock, as I learned out of the evidences of my noble friend Sir John Strangwayes knight, was in Edward the first's time by Raphe Pipard then Lord of it passed by fine unto Raph le Mareschall and Claricia his wife daughter of the said Raph Pipard and the heires of their bodies, upon which grant he reserved unto himselfe twenty markes yearly duringe his owne life, and after his decease unto his heires one clove of garlicke at Easter, for a stincking remembrance I thinke.

This Raphe had Sir Raph le Marescall, whose sonns Herbert and Sir Thomas Marescall died both without issue; whereupon their two sisters proved heires Florence married unto John Jerin, and Isabell to John Streame alias Delamar. Theis twoe being widowes, the first of Henry the [sixth] alienated Chinocke unto Mr. John Stafford deane of Wells soe was he written, the Bishopp of Bath and Wells, and lastly Archbishopp of Canterbury, who at the same time also purchased middle Chinocke from those Bonvills that drewe their descent from Margaret sister and Coheire of Sir William de Aumerle, whose predecessors knights of greate esteeme in Devon had for divers ages bin owners of it; and both theis places from an heire generall of Humphrey Stafford Earle of Devon allied unto the Bishopp are descended unto Sir John Strangways; and at one of them as I remember dwells Mr. Bonner as divers of his predecessors have done.

Pipard: Quarterly arg. and asure foure Lyons rampant counterquartered.

Le Marescall : Or a crosse scarcell [? recerclée] gules, on a border 8 crosletts fitché ; out of the seale of Florence Perin sister and coheire of Sir Tho. Marescall, who certainly was descended from those Marescalls which I have already mentioned at Haselbere.

Stafford : Or on a chevron gules one mitre or.

Bonvill : Sa. 6 mulletts arg. 3. 2. and one pierced.

Aumarle : Per fesse azure and gules 3 cressants arg.

Stafford Earle of Devon : Or a chevron gules, a border ingrailed sab.

Strangways : Sab. two Lyons passant paly of six arg. and gules.

Bonner : Gules a cressant ermin an vert of mulletts or [orle of martlets or].

There are three villages of this name—East, Mid, and West. The first-named, having been granted by the Earl of Moretaine to the Priory of Montacute, had an uneventful history down to 1539. After a series of quick changes of owners, it was purchased by the head of the Portman family in 1561.

Middle Chinnock was held by William de Albem[arle] in Kirby's Quest, and William Daumarle was a principal taxpayer in 1327. Elizabeth, second daughter of Sir William Daumarle of Woodbury, d. 1362, married, firstly, Sir John Mattravers of Hook, and had two daughters ; and secondly, Sir Humphrey Stafford of Southwyke. His son, Sir Humphrey Stafford, 'with the silver hand,' married his step-mother's daughter Elizabeth ; she died in 1420, and he in 1442. Their only child Alice married, firstly, Sir Edmund Cheney, by whom she had two daughters ; and secondly, Walter Tailboys, by whom she had one daughter, Eleanor, married to Thomas Strangeways, d. 1484 ; she died 1502. I am not, however, certain whether Middle Chinnock descended through those links, or was purchased as stated in the text.

In Kirby's Quest, West Chinnock was held by John, son of Ralph Pipard ; in the 'Nomina Villarum,' by Ralph le Mareschall. As Henry VI. began to reign August 31, 1422, and John Stafford's predecessor in the bishopric N. Bubwith did not die until 1424, he was rightly styled Dean.

CHESELBERGE.

Neere neighbour unto theis Chinocks, and seated not farr from this Rill, affords us something observable for here is a little trenched fort, and the adjoyning feilds shew some Barows as wee call them, y^e undoubted tokens of a Battaile there fought, for under them such as fall in y^e battaile were buried, whose work it was is now hardly to be found.

And yet the name hath almost persuaded me to thinke it was done by Chealin the third West Saxon King whoe began his raigne in the yeare of Christ 561 for that Chealinberge may easily in time by corruption be brought into Cheselberge, neither doth it make anything against my opinion that he had continuall warrs with the Brittaines for welneere thirtie yeares space and sometimes even in this Countie as in the quoted Authors¹ you may reade. Moreover my worthy friend Sir John Strangwayes now Lord of it hath an old Saxon deede of it, in which it is written Cealsberge as the King himselfe was often written Cealin instead of Chealin. And I am verily persuaded that if not from this man then from his next successor. But one Chelwolfe a place not farr of in Dorsett tooke the name of Chelbery instead of Chelwolfe for that he as his predecessor had frequent warres with the Brittaines, and at it untill this day stands the ruins of a trenched fort; but I must leave that and returne to Cheselber which is now surely is a little parish sceated not farr from the fort, of small note save once in the yeare, and that by reason of a faire kept at it on S. Lukes day where hasell-nuts are a very vendable comoditie, I will not say one of the principall. Howsoever it is now, shortly after y^e coming in of the Normans it was a Barony and of it divers held their lands, which because tenures oft proove dangerous I will suppress, and for prooffe of my former assercōn only alledge theis few lines following:

Willielmus de Echingham tenuit de hereditate uxoris medietatem Manerii de Cheselberge de domino Rege in capite per Baroniam unacum Radulpho de la Hay qui tenet aliam medietatem predicti Manerii ratione uxoris sue.²

This William de Echingham dyed issuelesse whereupon the whole Barony descended unto Isabell daughter and heire of the said Rafe dela Hay³ who was married unto Thomas de Auldham who as an Inquist saies held y^e Mannor of Cheselbere by Barony of the inheritance of Isabell his wife, and left it to Baldwin his sonne; the heire generall of theis not long after was married unto John de St. Claro or St. Cleere whose posterity almost all knights enjoyed Cheselberge untill Henry the sixth his time, when the heire generall of them brought it to William Hall of Devonshire whose successors soone parted with it, and

¹ Hen. Huntingdon, Malmsbury, and Speed.

² Inq. 37 H. 3. ³ Inq. 37 H. 3.

now as I said before it is ye possession of Sir John Strangwayes. By the way if you please take this note which I tooke out of the booke of releives in the Exchequer.

Philippus St. Cleere chr., filius Johannis St. Cleere chr., tenet manerium de Cheselberge de Rege in capite, et ibidem annotatur quod Franciscus de Auldham predecessor predicti tenet de Rege in capite 20 feod. milit. [] vizt. Catsash et Chedsey de honore de Aquila quondam St. Cleere.¹

I assure you the meaninge of it I doe not well knowe, and yet I confesse that Taloure a woman Chronicler in the catalogue of those that came with William the first, ranckes le Seignier de St. Cleere (I presume ancestor to theis men) in a prime place. The principle sceate of the honnor de Aquila was Pevensy in Sussex, which the Conqueror gave to the Earle Moriton his halfe Brother, and this Barony containd fiftene knights fees of the fee of Moriton as they were then called; after Pevensy came to Richard de Aquila whence the honnor gett that Name; but that ever it was called the honour of St. Cleere, I have nothing to make for it but the forerecited record, yet that the family of St. Cleere florished in those parts is most evident seeing an heire generall of them brought lands not farr distant from Pevensy unto the respective family of Gages whoe still enjoy it; but I will leave this to those who are better insighted in this facultie then myselfe.

I could lead you on with a discourse how theis families have taken and varied their Armes one from another, but for avoiding tediousnesse I will overpasse it, reciting only their coates.

Dela Hay: Arg. a sun shining gules.

Hayes: Or a sun gules.

Auldham: Asure a sonn shineing or.

St. Cleere: The same.

St. Cleere: Per pale or and asure a sun counterchanged.

St. Cleere of Cornwall: Per pale or and asure three suns counterchanged.

Hall: Arg. a Cheveron betweene three hounds heads erased sab.

As this manor was part of the Earl of Moretaine's spoil, the link uniting it to the Honour of Aquila is supplied. The families of Auldham and St. Clare are treated of in the 'Sinclairs in England,' ch. xli. *seq.*

¹ Anno 20 R. 2.

Having brought these two brookes together at Bowbridge and hence into Parrett at Merriett; the River if wee followe it will soone bring us in view of

HENTON.

Called comonly Georgehenton from the dedication of the Church to St. George as a difference from other places of the same name. I have sometimes thought the first part of the name to have bin drawne from the Brittish Hean which signifies old; as for ton it was an addicōn of the Saxons, and indeed I have observed divers places hereabout to retaine Brittish names even to this present as I have somewhere els observed.

This is now the cheife seate of the right Honorable and auncient family of the Pawletts; but came unto them by match, for I have found that many ages since, it was Powtrell's lands whose onlie heire brought it to John Gifford descended from the ancient stocke that the ancient Earles of Longwill in France and Buckingham in England were; but he as the former left onlie Alice his heire married unto Sir John Denband of Wales who brought him Phillipp Denband father of 3 sonns, William, Mathew, and Hamon, unto whom his eldest brother by his deed dated y^e nine and twentieth of Henry the third gave this Henton. Hamon had issue William Denband, and he by Johan his wife Thomas Denband, father of John¹ father of a second John,² in whom this family came to an end, for he left Elizabeth his only child, who brought Henton unto her husband Sir William Pawlett,³ whose predecessors (for I think it best seeing they reside heere, here to make mencōn of them) tooke their names from, and were anciently owners of Pawlett⁴ a place lying not farr from Hunspill on the north side of this Countie, whence by the daughter and heire of Thomas Reigney they removed over the River to Beare neere Cannington as there you may see more at large; where John Pawlett following his father's steppes married with the heire of Creeden, who brought him two sonns, Thomas the eldest, and William from whom are lineally descended that eminent house of Pawlet first Lords of St. John of Basing, after Earles of Wiltshire, and lastly Marquisses of

¹ Escaet 36 E. 3.

² Escaet 15 R. 2.

³ Pawlett.

⁴ Vide Noia. Villar. 9 E. 2. Pawlett et. illius dns. Will. de Pawlett.

Winchester and their allies. Thomas the eldest sonne though he mist honnor, yet lighted on a double heire, by her father of Burton, by her mother of Bois, both houses of good note; neither was his sonne Sir William much behind him for he as I said before married Denbande's heire, and built a new Chauntrey at the Chappell of Ichestoke nere Cannington, to which he repaired; the Manner of the foundaçon I will sett you downe out of the Record if you please to read it:

Juratores dicunt super sacramentum suum quod non est ad damnum domini nostri Regis nec aliorum si Rex concedat Willielmo Pawlett de Bere quod ipse quandam Cantariam de uno Capellano in honore beate Marie Virginis per ipsum juxta Capellam beate Marie Virginis de Ichestoke ex parte boreali ejusdem Capelle edificata pro statu ipsius Willielmi &c. celebrare imperpetuum de novo fundare, facere, stabilire, ac creare, ea quendam Capellanum idoneum ad Cantuariam illam cum sit fundata extiterat, presentare possit. Et quod Cantuar. illa Willielmi Pawlet et capellanus et successores sui Capellani Willielmi Pawlett nuncupentur, &c.¹

Thus you may see the zeale of our ancestors, which though it were something blinded yet it argued in them an extraordinary care in propagating God's service in y^e kind as they were taught, and I dare say it were a farr better memoriall of them, then those which to perpetuate themselves have in theis latter times done what the prophett long since foretold in Calling their houses after their own names; but I will leave this, and returne unto Sir William Pawlett. His posterity florished in greate honnour and respecte both at Courte and in the Country; for one of them was of the Privy Councell to Queene Elizabeth, namely Sir Amias Pawlett who also increased in his livelyhood by matching with the only heire of Anthony Harvy of Devon, and was grandfather unto John now Lord Pawlett of Henton soe created by Letters patent Anno [1627] of King Charles his raigne.

The house they inhabite is auncient yet very stately and of curiose buildinge, and that it is large for receipt a sufficient testimony for that King Charles as he went [to] and from Plymouth was twice lodged and intertayned in it. It stands in a daynty parke on a dry soile and hath all conveniences suteing such a place in abundance. The parish Church which is faire and

¹ Inq. 3 Hen. 5.

beautified with some of the monuments of theis men stands neere halfe a mile north from the house.

Pawlett: [Sa.] 3 swords in point arg. hilts or.

Powtrel: Arg. a fess betweene three cinquefoiles gules.

Gifford: Gules 3 Lyons passant in pale arg., a labell sab.

Deneband: Asure in a chefe arg. a demi-lyon ramp. gules.

Reigney: Gules two winges in Lower [*i.e.* lure] ermin.

Creedy: Asure 6 mascells arg. 3 and 3.

Burton: Arg. 4 barrs gules, a bendlett sab.

Bois: Arg. a cheveron gules betw. 3 okentrees vert.

Harvy: Gules on a bend arg. 3 trefoyles slipt vert.

Not farr from Henton though the place I cannot precisely point out yet I thinke in the Parish of Kingstone stands

ALWINSHAY.

Which name I am persuaded it tooke from Alwine a noble Saxon who in the yeare of Grace 954 florished under King Edred, as also under King Edwy his successor, in whose raigne vizt. 956 by the title of Alwinus miles he gave lands to the Abbey of Glaston of which place not long after he became a monke as William of Malmesbury in his story of that Abbey hath. After the conquest this Alwinshay together with Kingstone which made me place it heere became part of the Barony of Lanvalei in Kent; of which Rafe de Lanvalei who lived in King Henry the second's time receaved of the gift of Philipp de Wigornia 35 knights fees, as by the said Phillip's deed in my keeping appears; but seeing the land lyes not in these parts I will forbear to transcribe it. This Rafe was father of William de Lanvalei a greate and riche Baron, whose only daughter and heire Hawis King John bestowed upon his Justice Hubert de Burgo, after Earle of Kent, and after cheife Justice of England who married her to his only sonne John de Burgo whom as Paris¹ hath Henry the third knighted in the yeare of our Lord 1229; but he dyed before his father leaving a sonne named John Baron of Lanvalei by descent from his mother. He marryed Cicely daughter of John de Bayhill and dyed, amongst divers other mannors seized of Alwinshay and Kingstone being part of his Barony of Lanvalei as the inquisition taken after his

¹ Mat. Paris.

death shows ;¹ which also saith that Devorgilde the wife of Robert Fitzwalter and Hawis the wife of Robert Grelly were his daughters and heires. But he had another daughter namely Margaret a nun at Chicksand in Bedfordshire, who by putting herself into a Cloyster it seemes put herself out of her Inheritance.

Not long after, by what conveyance I knowe not theis places became the possession of Robert Fitzpaine from whom by Chideoke it descended unto the Arundells and is now owned by the Lord Arundell of Wardor Castle.

Lanvalei: . . .

De Burgo: Gu. 7 lozenges 3. 3. and 1 vare.

Fitzwalter: Or a fesse betweene two Cheverons gules.

Grelly Baron of Manchester, from whom is issued the Lord

Laware: Gules a bend and 2 bends above or.

Fitzpayne: Gules three lyons passant in pale arg., a bendlet asure.

Chideocke: Gules an Escutcheon and an orle of martlets arg.

Arundell: Sab. 6 swallows arg. 3. 2. and 1.

Allownshay is in the parish of Kingstone, which also belonged to the Abbey of Glastonbury, until the Earl of Moretaine absorbed it. From this later connexion Kingstone was attracted into the Hundred of Tintinhull, in which Montacute was situated. Alewyneshigh, with Lodenay, now Ludney, a hamlet in the same parish, is mentioned in a Fine levied 16 Ed. II. No. 36, confirmatory of a settlement made by Robert Fitzpayne.

As wee returne here hence to the River wee passe by two villages called

SEVENTON.

And that in mine opinion very aptlie from seaven dwellings. I remember I have seene a recorde² that tells me it was scaven knights' fees. Theis are now two parishes, the one called heretofore Seavenhampton Deneis, after from the dedicacon of the Church Sevenhampton Michaell, and is that if I mistake not which heretofore belonged to y^e Abbeye of Athelney, and which King Henry the eight after the dissolucon of religious houses exchanged with the Warden and fellowes of St. Mary Colledge neere Winchester who still owne it for some lands of theirs now

¹ 8 E. 1.

² Inq. 2 E. 1, post mortem Johis Courtney.

lying within the Kings parkes at Hampton Court. The other called Seavenhampton Mary but anciently Seavenhampton Vaulxe, belonging to the noble family of Vaulxe or de Vallibus Barons of Gilsland in Cumberland, untill Hubert de Vaus left one onlie daughter and heire Matilda,¹ married with a riche inheritance unto Thomas de Moleton Lord of Gilsland² in her right; second sonne of Thomas de Moleton by Ada his wife daughter and coheire of Hugh de Morevill a great Baron in those parts, and brother to Lambert de Moleton Baron of Egremont, from whom by the Lord Fitzwater the late Earles of Sussex derived their descent. But the forenamed Thomas and Matilda Vaulxe had two sonnes Thomas Baron of Gilsland in the right of his mother (which title and a very rich inheritance to boote the heire generall of them brought unto the Lord Dacres), and James de Moleton unto whom by his mother's gift this Seavenhampton and lands in Ashill fell; both theis left their father's Coate, and tooke their mother's which they varied as by and by you shall see. This James was father of Thomas de Moleton³ who by Mary sister and coheire of Sir William Herward had John de Moleton,⁴ and he Mary the wife of Sir John Strech⁵ one of which two daughters and heires was married unto Thomas Bewchampe of Whitlakington whose heire generall Sir George Speake now of Whitlakington injoyed faire revenews hereabout still, by that match. I had almost overpassed that Robert de Vallibus gave both the Chappell (for that it was then in Petherton parish) and Chauntry of Seavenhampton with certaine lands belonging unto it to the Priory of Bruton, but bound the Priory and his Successors ever to maintaine a Chaplaine and a Clerk at Seaventon.

Vaulxe: Cheque or and gules.

Moleton: Gules 3 barrs arg.

Moleton of Gillesland: The same with a Labell of 5 asure.

Morevill: Asure fretty and some flowerdeluces or.

Thos. Molton Baron of Gilsland: Chequee or and gules, from his mother.

James Moleton of Ashill: Chequee or and sab. for a difference.

Herward: Arg. a crosse sarcell gules, a labell of 3 asure.

Streach: Arg. 3 martletts gules, a bendlett ingrailed sab.

¹ escaet 21 E. 1.

² Camden in Brig. pag. 639.

³ inq. 2 E. 3.

⁴ escaet 35 E. 3.

⁵ Ibid. 15 R. 2.

Bewchampe: Vare a border ingrailed gules.

Speake: Arg. two barrs, an Eagle displayed with two heads or.

In Domesday there are three manors called Sevenhampton, ere long contracted into Seavington. One, rated at two hides, was held by the Abbey of Athelney as a gift of King Canute. It is the tithing of S. Abbot's in the parish of S. St. Mary, but topically in the village of S. St. Michael. Another Sevenhampton, rated at three hides, was held by Siward, an Englishman, who also held Dinnington. As this place is linked both in ecclesiastical and civil matters with S. St. Michael in after days, this identification may be considered proved. In Kirby's Quest, Sefnampton Deneys is held by Adam le Deneys of Hamo de Burdone; and he holds of Alexander de la Lynde, and he of the Earl of Gloucester, and he of the King. Thomas de la Lynde was patron of Seavington St. Michael in 1321, so the identity of S. Deneys and Seavington St. Michael seems established. The patronage passed from de la Lynde to Poulett between 1464 and 1470 (Weaver's 'Incumbents'). The manor was however the possession of Sir Humphrey Stafford at the time of his death, 1442; and in the reign of Edward IV., it was in the King's hands; he gave it to Glastonbury Abbey in exchange for hunting privileges elsewhere.

By a process of exhaustion the third Domesday manor of Sevenhampton, rated at seven hides, and held under the Earl of Moretaine by Malger de Cartrai, is proved to be Seavington Vaux, or Seavington St. Mary; and it is an additional point that Ashill, also held by Malger, came likewise to Vaux.

The church of St. Mary was dependent on South Petherton, and served by a chaplain. About the year 1220, Robert, son of Alice de Vaux, granted additions to the former rights of Bruton Priory, who held South Petherton church, in this place on condition that they provided a resident chaplain.

The watershed hereabouts seems to have puzzled Gerard. Chilthorne and Ocle, *i.e.* Oakley, are in the valley of the Yeo, near Ilchester. Odcombe, Brompton, Houndston, and Preston are on a small rivulet which falls into the Yeo at Yeovil; while Lufton, Montacute, and Stoke-under-Ham drain into a little stream which, passing by (and sometimes through) Martock, falls into the Parrot near Kingsbury Episcopi.

Before the river Parrett comes unto Petherton bridge it crosseth one little rill more which riseth neare

CHILTERNE.

For soe are two parishes a little upward called, but I dare not believe upon y^e same cause that a part of Buckinghamshire is knowne by the name of the Chilterne, that being soe called from a chalkie marle which our ancestors called Cilt and Chilt, in place of which you shall find stiffe claye and store of dyrte; yet it is stored with a blewe marle which in these parts they

imploye in improving grounds, both for corne and grasse where it will suite with the soile.

The firste of these called Chilterne Vag was y^e possession of John Foge or Vage¹ whose greategrandchild dying issuelless, it fell to Sir Guy de Brient² Lord of it, and he not long after builded a little college of priests at Slapton in Devon where he was buryed, amongst other lands indowed them with this Vage ; now the habitacon of Mr. Hawker descended out of Wilts.

The other named Chilthorne Domer took that addition from the Domers Lords of it, of whom I writ but erstwhile at Pendomer, and from an heire of them by Sturton came hereditarily to the Sidenhams who now owne it.

Chilthorne, temp. Doomsday, was divided into three portions. The two larger were held under the Earl of Moretaine by Alured (Pincerna), and the smallest by Warner of William de Ou. As Pen-domer (see *ante*) was held by Alured of the Earl, it is very likely that his portion represents the modern parish and manor of Chilthorne-Domer, and Warner's manor Chilthorne-Vagg, which is in the parish of Yeovil, though owing to its distance from the mother church, the owners of Chilthorne-Vagg seem to have resorted to the nearer church at Chilthorne-Domer.

Parish to this Chilterne is

OCLE.

Heretofore written Ocled³ and more ancient then that Hockley.⁴ This was the possession and dwelling of John Bissett descended by a collateral line from that greate Manasses Bissett a Baron and Sewer to King Henry the second whose predecessor Jordan Bissett founded both the Mannor of Clerkenwell and Priory of S. John's neere Smithfield⁵ by London about the beginning of Henry the first's time, but to leave those this John Bissett by Catherine his wife daughter and coheire of Edmund Bassett of Saltford neere Bristol had two daughters his heires, one whereof namely Katherine⁶ brought this Ocle unto her husband Sir Walter de Romsey who lived in King John's time and held divers lands in those parts of the ancient barons of Kilpecke in Herefordshire which was the cause they gave their Lordes armes of arg. a fess gules adding unto it a labell of 3 points for a difference which labell

¹ Escaet 18 E. 1.

² inq. de quo ad damn. 48 E. 3.

³ escaet 7 E. 3.

⁴ Plita temp. regis Johan.

⁵ Camden, Stowe.

⁶ Plita tpe. Johis. rotulo ff.

sometimes was of 5 points as I have seene it in the seale of Sir Walter de Romsey annexed to his deed the fourth of Edward y^e third. The aforesaid Sir Walter de Romsey was father of John who was father of another Sir Walter from whom issued divers knights of greate note and respect both here and in Hampshire for I doe verily perswade myselfe that they tooke their sirname from Romsey a towne well knowne in that Countie but this family came to an end in Henry the sixth's time, and the estate reverted to Marian the sister of Sir Thomas Romsey after the death of his only daughter and nephew, who was the wife of Thomas Bingham of Sutton not long sithence spoken of, who by her had Joane his onlie heire first married unto Thomas Kelleway whose posterity enjoyed faire estate in Hampshire and elsewhere by her, after she married William Horsey by whom she had Thomas Horsey, by her gift owner of this Ocled lands in Saltford and other places which his Successors owned untill of latter times.

Bissett: Asure ten besants 4, 3, 2, and 1.

Bassett: Ermin a canton gules.

Romsey: Arg. a fesse gules, a labell of 3 asure.

Bingham: Ermin on a chief asure 3 Lyons rampant or.

Kelway: Or two glasiars crippling Irons in saltier sab.,
betweene foure peares proper.

Horsey: Asure a cheveron betw. 3 horseheads coped or,
bridled arg.

For Oakley, see note in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLV. ii. 58; and Ped. Fin., 7 John, No. 16.

LUFTON.

The next place the River comes unto seemes to have taken that name of the British Luffon which signifies Elmes, and store of those trees are seene hereabouts, the ground breeding them exceedingly. At it I saw an old house not long since the habitation of the auncient family of Beavin, having enobled their house by an heire of Montacute descended from the Earles of Sarum left one daughter married unto Keymer, but Lufton is now the dwelling of Mr. Hodges.

Beavin: Arg. a cheveron betweene three martletts gules, a chief checquée or and gules.

Montacute: Arg. 3 fussels in fesse gules betw. 3 ogresses.

Keymer: Arg. 3 wolves passant in pale asure, a border sa. besant.

Hodges: Or 3 crescents and on a quarter sa. a coronett or.

Leland was struck with the growth of elms in this district. John Bevyne married Eleanor, who, by an inquisition taken in 1511, was found to be a coheir of Thomas Montagu of Sutton Montis. He died in 1554, leaving for his heirs, Ursula, wife of John Sydenham of Lye in Old Cleeve; Mary, wife of Ellis Keymer, then deceased; and Dorothy, unmarried. The manor must have been sold soon after to John Hodges, who was buried at Lufton, April 24, 1608.

Nere neighbour unto Lufton is

MONTACUTE.

Remarkable for the Castle, priory, and a noble family which tooke name from it; but before we touche of these, something if you please of the name of it, which says William of Malmesbury was Logwersbroch, of one Logwer, whose name was inscribed on one of the piramides that stood in the Churchyard of Glaston Church; and in another place in the same book I meane that which he writt of the Antiquities of the Abbey of Glaston, he plainely calls it Legiosberghe, where he saies that in the yeare of Christ 681 King Baldred gave unto that Abby, Pennard being six hides, and Legiosberghe 16 hides, the name being so plaine that almost persuaded me to believe it took it from some legion of Roman souldiers that there kept their station. If you ask mee the place, I must pitch upon the north of Hamden hill lying over it almost, which shewes a large platt intrenched, now within the parke of Sir Robert Phelipps, and called (as I have been informed by some neighbours) untill this day Legcott, which seems to reserve a memory of Legio. The best reason I have next the name is the situation, even on the Roman consular way called Foss, which by this passeth from Ichester to Dorchester; neither will it make anything against me, as I suppose, to lett you knowe that at Niland further in this County was found a Trophie of Victory erected by Publius Ostarius in honnour of Claudius the Emperor; who was the first after Ceaser that entred Brittainc, and the same yeare conquered the Isle of Whight with the southerne parts leaveinge his name to Claudius downe now Claudio. But thus much of the auncient name, and

I feare too much for my conjectures, and otherwise I would not have you take them, though they please me, may chance displease others, and in them if I have erred I will willingly acknowledge it to any that shall better inform me.

Next this place was called Bishopston as belonging to some Bishopp, and a part of it retaines untill this daie as the whole did in y^e Conqueror's daies for soe Doomsday book tells me.

The last name Montacute it tooke since the Norman Conquest after that Robert Earl Moriton halfe Brother to King William the first, unto whose lott it fell, had built a Castle on the very pitch of a hill riseing to a good height and shaped almost like a sugarloafe sharpe towards the topp whence the Normans in their language called Montacute. This Earle Robert not long after built at y^e foote of the hill a little priory for Cluniacke Monks dedicated to St. Peter and Paule concerning which if you please take this following out of Leland's Commentaries.¹

- The Count Moriton who was brother as I conjecture to William² the Conqueror began a Priory of blacke Monckes of three or four in number under the roote of Montacute hill endowed it with three faire Lordshippes, which were Montacute, Tyntenhull 3 miles of, and Creech 10 miles of; the Earle Moriton³ tooke part with Robert Curthose against King Henry the first, and was taken⁴ and put in prison and his lands attainted;⁵ at which time the three Mannors given to Montacute Priory were taken away, and the Monkes compelled to beg for a season; at the last Henry the first had pittie of them and offered them their landes againe soe as they would leave the place and goe to Lamport, where at that time the King intended to have made a notable Monasterye, but the Monkes entreated they might keep their old house, whereupon he restored their three Lordshippes, and translated his intended building from Lamport to Redding.

Reginaldus Cancellarius soe named from his office, a greate

ROBERT •
MOUNTAIN

¹ Leland.

² He was sonne of Helonyne de Comit. villa by Harlett his wife mother to Will. Conqueror.

³ This was Will. Earle of Moriton and Cornwall, son of Robert.

⁴ At y^e bataille of Trenchbraye in Normandy 6 Hen. 1.

⁵ id est forfeited, but Matt. of West. saies he was disinherited by force, and his Earldom given to Stephen after king of England.

man in Henry the first's time became a monk, and after Priour of Montacute, which place he much enlarged both with buildinges and possessions, part of the Castle (before mentioned) being pulled down to builde the Priory.'

Thus farr Leland, but he might have remembered how that this King not only restored their three mannors unto them, but added of his owne guifte either in part or whole the tithes of twelve Churches more, which charter is to good purpose vouched by the learned Selden in his History of Tithes; give me leave to add unto this that whereof I have seene the ruines and soe may any else if they will for they remaine untill this daye, which was a Chapell built on the topp of the hill where the Castle stood by some Priour of this House and dedicated to St. Michael; and give me here leave to ask one question what was the cause that most of those highe and elevated places are dedicated to the Archangell St. Michael; if you should propose it to me I protest I must pleade ignorance but not as the mother of Devotion; but that it is soe reexamples are frequent; for besides this, that beorge or round hill that stands eminent in the flatts of this Country, from the dedication of the Chappell on the topp of it, hath gotten the name of St. Michael's borow; and to lett passe many others the mount in Cornwall is it not called St. Michael's Mount? But this quere I leave for others to resolve, and will returne to the Chappell at Montacute; which whilst it stood was a fine peece of worke builte with arched worke, and an embownd roof, overlead all of stone very artificiallie; and to it for halfe a mile welnere men ascended on stone stayres fetchinge a compasse round about the hill. This place by some latter zealous Recusants hath bin had in greate veneration, for they believe that (but I thinke out of their traditions) that the body of Joseph of Aremathea, that Joseph which buried the body of our blessed Saviour Jesus Christ, was here interred. But for the truth of that I referr you to that I have writtten of Glaston Abbey, where I thinke you will find it is as true as another tradition, that in this Chappell was found one of those nayles which fastened our Saviour to the crosse, which a gentleman¹ not farr of kept sometime and after sold for a greate sume of money to be transported beyond the Seas. The reader maye compare the times and easily see the truthe.

The Castle was built by the Earle Moriton in the Conqueror's

¹ Mr. H.

time, and the hill thought not all cast up by man's hand; yet I believe by man's hand brought to that forme which gave it the name of Montacute.

The Chappell succeeded the Castle and was by all probability builded in King Henry the first's time, and yet St. Joseph who dyed in the yeare of Christ 76 must be buried here welneere 1044 ycares after his death. The naile I will leave to be added to the numberlesse number of those nayles which at first were but three, and twoe of those all Histories agree the Emperor Constantine caused to be placed as bosses in his bitt, but it seemes they increased as y^e widowes meale and oyle, for there was hardly any Christian kingdom that had not one of them; nay many greate Abbies would not sticke to shew you a nayle also of the same forge or rather forgeing. But wee will leave this and looke down againe on y^e Prioury which at first being but little better than a cell, not long after grew soe well that it had gotten four cells under it, which were Carswell, Holme, St. Cross, and Malpass, for soe find I them named in the charter of King Edward the third, by which he gave unto William de Montacute y^e Patronage of y^e Priory of Montacute and of those cells belonging unto it.

This Priory underwent the generall fate of all such houses in Henry the eight's time, and stands now almost desolate for the owner of it Sir Robert Phelips hath soe goodly a house hard by (built by his Father Sir Edward Phelips Master of the Rolles), that he seldom makes use of it; and indeed a very beautiful peece it is, farr surpassing anie neere it, whether you consider the fairness or neate building of the house, or y^e conveniences about it, such as are large and spacious Courtes, gardens, orchards, a parke, &c.

Lastly Montacute gave the sirname unto the right honorable Familie, who drew their descent from one Drew the younger,¹ and of which race here flourished foure Earles of Salisbury, of whom read more if you please at Shepton Montacute in this Countie; after it gave the title of Marquis Montacute unto John Nevill descended from Alice heire generall of that Familie, and of Lord Montacute to Henrie Poole who haveing received that honnour by Henry the eight, was shortly after cutt shorter by the head. And of Viscount Montacute unto Anthony Browne whom Queene Mary advanced to that degree being both

¹ Drugo Juvenis.

descended from the daughters of John Nevill Marquis Montacute, which title of Viscount Montacute still flourisheth in his posterity.

Robert Earle Moriton and of Cornwall: Ermin, a chefe indented gules.

Montacute: Arg. 3 fessells in fess gules. Give me leave to think that this Coate was taken out of the former.

Priory of Montacute: . . .

Phelipps: Arg. a cheveron betw. 3 roses gules, a martlett.

Legend and history alike are found at Montacute; and the literature dealing with both is too vast to be even enumerated here. An account of the Priory is prefixed to the Chartulary printed in S.R.S., Vol. VIII.

A little below Montacute on the same river and under the same hill, stands

STOKE.

From the situation, and for a difference from others of the same name, called Stoke under Hamden. That this was a member of ye Barony of Hach and owned by the Lords Beauchampe of that place by the quoted Registers¹ plainly appears, and that the Colledge of Preists here was of their foundation this subsequent inquisition taken by virtue of a writt of *quo ad damnum* 30 E. I. evidently shows:

Juratores dicunt super sacramentum suum &c. quod non est ad damnum Regis nec aliorum si Rex concedat Johanni de Bellocampo de Somerset quod ipse j messuag. iiij virgat. terre &c. in Stoke subter Hamden et advocacionem Ecclie. ejusdem ville dare possit quinque Cappellanis in Capella sancti Nicholai de Stoke &c. pro anima ipsius Johannis celebrare habend. eisdem et successoribus imperpetuum, &c.

This church the second of Edward the second these priests appropriated to their owne use and in ye inquisition acknowledge that they had it of John de Bellocampo of Somerset. If these proofes were not strong enough, yet the armes of Beuchamp being vare soe often inserted and still remayneing in that part of the Colledge which now remaines will serve for a great presumption. I have bin a little the larger in this relation because a very reverend and learned man hath left this of it—

¹ escaet 12 E. 1, 10 E. 3, 17 E. 3, 35 E. 3, et liber reliev. 40 E. 3.

² Camden de Belge.

Stoke under Hamden where the Gournays had a Castle and built a Colledge.

Farr be it from me to tax him whose bookes I was never worthy to bear after him. I presume that in a work soe generall he, (as any man else must be) was forced to take information from many ; and to shewe them their error, I have shewed them the foundation of the Colledge, and for their excuse will show what follows, which may much mitigate their mistake which is that John¹ only son of John last Lord Beauchamp of Hach died in his father's time without issue, yet left a widow namely Alice² the daughter of Richard Beauchampe Earle of Warwicke, who holding Stoke with other lands in jointure, after married Sir Matthew de Gournay, who lived died³ and was buried at this Stoke, which dureing his wives life, (for shee died before him) he purchased of the two heires⁴ of the Lord Beauchampe.

This is that Sir Matthew Gournay so renowned for martiall feates by Sir John Frosart, who dyed full of dayes without issue, for his epitath which now together with the stone is most shamefully taken away, shewed that he dyed the 96 of his age, after that he had fought at the seige of Algizer against the Saracens, in the battailes of Benamazin, Seluse, Cressy, Ingenes, Poictiers, and at Nazares in Spaine.

After the death of this Matthew a goodly estate⁵ of the Gournays fell to the King by escheate, all which and more King Henry the fourth granted to John Tiptofte Lord Powis dureing his life, and King Henry the sixth unto his sonne Edmund Duke of Somerset, from whom it reverted to the Crowne, and sithence hath suffered divers changes, which because I have bin too tedious already, I will passe over with silence.

The Colledge came to its period under Henry the eight, and is now become the dwelling of Mr. Strode descended from those Strodes in Dorsett.

Having thus farr coasted Hamden hill, I will desire your company to the topp of it, where besides the pleasure of the prospect, I hope to find something that may countervale your

¹ Escaet 35 E. 3.

² 7 R. 2.

³ 18 R. 2.

⁴ Cicely de St. Maur, Elianora de Merriett.

⁵ vizt. Maneria de Stoke Hamden, Milton Falconbr., Stratton super Fosse, Farenton, Ingescombe, Widcombe, Laverton, Shepton Mallet, Corye Mallet, Stowell, and West Harptree.

pains. For you shall see on the north side where wee rise up from Stoke unto it, the footings of that Fort I have before spoken of; on the south, the goodlyest quarry of freestone that ever I saw, which for beautie largenesse, lasting and antiquitie I presume gives place to none. I am sure in the western parts the antiquity is sufficiently shewen, in that all our ancient Castells, Churches and Mansion houses both here, in Dorsett, and a part of Devonshire, shewe it; the beautie is both in the Couller, being a faire yellowe or oker couller, for amongst it is found in vaines much okar with which they wash over and clesne foule stones; and largenesse, for out of it they take stones of what bigness the workmen please, and I never sawe any quarry to come near this in Couller and goodness save one within two miles of Northampton the principall towne of North'tonshire; for lasting, if it be out of a good bedd, it endures fire water and all things else. The masons here have a pretty kind of commonwealth; they have their courtes in which all trespasses against each other are judicially tried; and the Quarreys themselves seeme rather little parishes then quarryes, soe many buildings have they under the vast workes to shelter themselves in wet weather, and their wrought stones in winter. Whence this hill tooke the name of Hamden I cannot tell; you may remember but erst while a Record called it Hamelden, but I believe it is that Hamamdun¹ which the Saxon king Etheldred in the yeare of grace 987 gave to the Abbey of Glaston, and since the dissolution it is come by the Duke of Somersett unto the Earle of Hertford, who also is Lord of Norton called under Hamden, which formerly acknowledged the Delapooles Earles of Suffolke owners of it.

For Beauchamp of Hatch, see 'Barony of Beauchamp of Somerset,' by J. Batten, F.S.A. ('Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXXVI. ii. 20; and XL. ii. 236). Vol. XXXV. of the same Proceedings contains an account of the discovery of the site of the chapel of St. Nicholas within the castle by Dr. W. W. Walter.

On the east of this hill and on y^e hill stands

ODCOMBE.

Daintily seated, which though now it be but an ordinary parish was heretofore the Barony of William de Brewere, for soe was his father Henry named in the Normans language,

¹ Malmesbury de Antiq. Glaston.

because he was taken up amongst heathe in the New Forest by command of King Henry the second as he was a hunting. This man became afterwards very greate at Court, and soe much favoured by King Richard the first that he was esteemed his minion, and which is strange for a favourite to arrive at, gott y^e love not only of the greate but also of the ordinary sort ; by which meanes and his wife Beatrix de Vannes if not widowe yet in the next place to Reginald Earle of Cornwall, he recovered a greate and wealthy estate, besides which she brought him William de Bruere the younger who dyed issulesse in the year of salvation 1232, but left a widow, for her second husband Walter le Brett¹ held at the time of his death, as the Inquisition says, this Odcombe, Milverton, Ilbrewers and Trent by Barony and had issue two daughters his heires: Alice mother of Stephen le Brett, of whom I shall speake by and by, and Annora mother to Sir Henry Crooke. But after the death of the Lady Joane mother to these two daughters ; the before named mannors and many more fell unto the five sisters of the last Lord William Brewer, who were married as followeth. Alice first to William Paganell Lord of Bampton in Devon by whom shee had no child, and after to William Lord Moyne of Dunster from whom divers noble families, and some of the same name are issued that remaine untill this day ; Joane to the Lord Percy whose heires generall were Baptoll, Heringande, Fikcase and others ; Greca was the wife of Reginald Lord Bruse of Brecknock ; Isabell of Sir Baldwin Wake ; and lastly Margaret of William de la Fert. In this division Odcombe, Milverton, fell to Reginald Bruse whose son's daughters, married to the Earls of March Mortimer, to the Lord Zouche, and to the Earle of Pembroke Hastings, tripartited these lands and their posterity soe enjoyed them, untill by attainder they fell unto the Crowne ; not long since, Odcombe was the inheritance of Sir Thomas Phelippes who built a Mansion house at it, in a place well deserving the name Pitt ; who not long after removeing to Barrington, it was taken downe.

I think you would laughe handsomely at me if I should conclude this place with Tom Coriatt borne here, and whoe celebrated the fame of it in many Countries and in many languages, even as farr as an everlastinge pair of shoes would carry him, which whether they were hung up as a Trophe after

¹ escaet 4 E. 1.

his death I know not, but for this man if so be to any unknowne I would rather they should read him in his owne volumes which are voluminous enoughe to sett him forthe, then loose so much time as to character him.

Not long sithence I made mention of Walter le Brett whose daughter's sonne Stephen, as from a Record I showed tooke the sirname of le Brett, and seated himself at Hescombe but a little from this place. This Stephen was father of foure sonnes. Thomas the eldest had John, father of three daughters, Joane married to John le Bathon, Elianor to John le Hayward, and Alice a mayden; but from the younger sons of Stephen issued the Bretts knights heretofore Lords of Sandford Brett as here you may see, long sithence extinct; and a family still remayneing, who seated themselves first at Evell and after by the only heire of Stanton removed to Whitstanton in this Countie where they florish in very good respect untill this present. As for Hescombe it came long sithence by alienation unto the Sydenhams of Brimpton amongst whose writings I found most of that I have sett downe; to many of which are affixed faire ancient scales showing plainly a lion which I cannot think hath any relation at all unto that, Or a Lyon passant gules which Upton and other old Heraulds ascribe unto King Brute for his armes, because I am a Thomas, and therefore hard of beliefe of that story, yet I know right well that all theis Bretts gave for their armes a red Lyon as ere long I shall shewe. In the mean time I had almost forgotten William de Say who held lands in Odcombe, and taking his pilgrimage towards Jerusalem dyed in the waie as he was returning home, whereupon his three sisters entred his inheritance, Ilacia the wife of Nicholas Avenell, Joane of Henry Furnell, and Lettice of James Fitzgerard, all men of eminent note; but now take if you please their Coates following, as I promised.

Brewer: Gules two bends wave or.

Walter le Brett: A Lyon ramp. gules.

Brett of Sanford: The same, y^e field charged with crosletts fiché gules.

Brett of Ivell, after of Whitstanton: Arg. cruselé fiché, and a lyon ramp. gu.

Phelippes: Arg. a cheveron betw. three roses gu., a difference.

See the 'Honour of Odcombe and Barony of Brito,' by T. Bond, in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXI. ii. 28. At the date of Doomsday the many manors which were in after days to make up the Barony, were held by Ansger, sometimes styled Brito or else de Montacute. He was succeeded by his son Walter, living 1095. In 1161 Roger Brito paid twenty pounds to the Exchequer for fifteen knight's fees. He had apparently just succeeded, as three years before the Barony was in the King's hand. Four years later Roger had given place to another Walter. In 1179 the sheriff was again in possession; and a Brito is not mentioned again as an owner until 1196, when a third Walter occurs, who seems to have died within a few years.

In 1199 Walter Croc was owner of one moiety of the Barony, and the other was probably held by Richard de Hasecumb; these were nephews of Walter Brito. Between 1200 and 1202 they surrendered the whole to William Brewer for the use of his son Richard Brewer and his heirs. Richard, however, died childless about 1211, and his brother William Brewer the younger succeeded. He also died without children in 1232, leaving a widow Johanna, who survived until 1265, having had Odcombe lle-Brewers and Milverton in dower. The jury on the Inquisition after her death knew of no heirs to the reversion of these manors except the Brett family, who had been of Hescombe (in Odcombe), which manors had been alienated through the power of Sir William Brewer the elder. Mr. Batten considers the Inquisition held in 1276 to have been a fishing inquiry set up by the heirs of Walter Brito after the death of Johanna Brewer to see if there was any chance of recovering the property, and that the attempt failed.

Even under Odcombe three places present themselves unto our view which I am unwilling to overpasse, and know not well how but by this digression to come at them. These are

BRIMPTON.

Where you may see a faire house daintily sceated and furnished with all manner of conveniences as gardens, orchards, groves, &c., and that which is before all theis good grounds, and those of a very large extent, it is now the cheife seate of Sydenhams, a family as ancient and eminent and [*for as*] any in this tract. To proove the first they are yet owners of Sydenham which lyes neere North Petherton¹ in this Countie and gave them that name; for the second soe manie knights of this familie is a sufficient testimony. Brimpton fell to the Sidenhams in Henry the sixt his time by the daughter and coheire of John Sturton of Preston of whom I shall have occasion to speak ere long, and therefore will passe it over here. John son of John Sidenham by Sturton's heire was he that built the most of Brimpton house, and to it some of his successors have added.

¹ Nomina Villar. 9 E. 2.

The same John built a fine little chappell adjoyning to the church for their sepulture much beautified of late by a faire tomb raised to the memory of Sir John Sidenham by his son John sithence dead also. In this chappell as in the house you may see a greate number of Coates of Armes in glasse containing from a long series of ancestors their pedigree, till of latter times, amongst which I observe that they have married with the heires and coheires of Kitsford, Dalingrig, Whitton, Hussey, Sturton, Godolfin and Buckland, which have increased both their livelyhood and allyance. This much of the modern Lords of Brimpton.

Now if you please wee will look a great way back what owners it had then, and that of the evidence of John Sidenham Esquire now owner of it, where I find it written Brimpton D'Evercy for a difference it should seeme from some other place of that name, which I confesse I have not found eyther in this or the next [County]. It is true there are two places in the North-West of Somersett called from Broome Brompton, but this surely takes its denomination from the Saxons' Bryn, intimating the side of a hill, and on such a declining it is seated ; the latter it took from the Lords, as being the possessions of a family soe surnamed, of which I have seene the deeds of Sir Thomas D'Evercy knights, grandfather father and sonne, sealed with faire seales of Armes vizt. 3 Crescents, the last of theis the five and thirtieth of Edward the first founded in the parish church of Brimpton a Chauntry, and died the eighteenth of Edward the second. In this Chauntry he lyes buried haveing on his grave-stone (which lyes flatt on the ground) his effigies carved, Armed in male and crosslegged and on his sheild his Armes depicted which are, Or 3 crescents asure, on each one besant ; at his foot lyes his wife intombed after the same manner. Mistake mee not for I meane not Armes neither crosselegged though it be a woman's posture, but low on the ground having her picture carved on it. Shce seems to have been of the family of Gorges by her Armes being Lozenges or and asure, placed next her husband's in a window not farr off, where by all probabilities they have stood hundreds of yeares. But I must leave theis, who left behind them one only daughter Ann the wife of Sir John Glamorgan whose predecessors before the conquest of that part of Wales in William Ruface his time were owners of Glamorgan, and from it tooke their name, but beaten hence by

the English found saffer abideing in England and planted themselves not farr from this place, for a pleading in King John's time tells me of a difference between Philipp de Glamorgan and Robert de Mandevill concerning lands in Hardington. This Sir John and his wife left eight children, Peter de Glamorgan and Nicholas that dyed without children, whereupon their six sisters parted their inheritance, the eldest named Joane married to Peter de Winford, Isabell to Sir Galfride de Handstone of Sussex whose inheritance came unto Thomas Hackett of the Isle of Wight, Petronell first to Leweston of Lewestone in Dorsett and after to Robert Urrye of the Isle of Wight whose posterity still remaines, Margery to Robert Rose of the same Island, Nicholaa dyed unmarried, and Elianor to Peter Veere of Veeres Watton in the [parish of] Symonsbury in Dorset, a familie of great antiquity but now extinct. But I will returne to Brimpton which place John eldest sonne of Peter de Winford before spoken of by the eldest sister of Glamorgan had the fortune to purchase entirely from the other coheires, and soe left it unto John Winford his sonne, who having noe child, passed it unto John Sturton after the death of himselfe and Alice Lambrooke his wife; from whom as you have heard it descended to the Sydenhams now owners of it. [See 'Historical Notes on South Somerset,' ch. iv.]

Sidenham : Arg. 3 rams passant sab. attired or.

Kitsford : . . .

D'Alingrig : Arg. a crosse ingrailed gules, a mullett sab.

Whitton : Arg. a bend of fussels sab.

Hussey : Barry of six gules and ermin, a cressant arg.

Sturton : Sab. on a bend or betw. six fountaines proper a mullett sab. arg.

Godolfin : Gules an eagle displayed with two heads betw. 3 fleurdeluces.

Buckland : Gules 3 Lyons ramp. arg., a quarter sab. fretty or.

D'Evercy : Or three cressants asure, on each a besante.

Gorges : Lozenges or and asure.

Glamorgan : Ermin two barrs gu., a labell of five asure.

This stands very old in Brimpton church, but Peter de Glamorgan raysed by his mother tooke Armes in imitation of hers vizt. Two cressants and a quarter as

I have seene in divers scales of his ; the colours if I mistake not were Or 3 cressants and a quarter asure.
 Winford as his brother Glamorgan had done before tooke
 Armes in allusion of D'Evercy vizt. Gules three
 cressants and a quarter arg. which remaine both in
 timber and glasse in Brimpton Church to this present.
 Lambrooke : Paly wavy of sixe arg. and sab., on a cheefe
 of y^e second three cressants of the first.
 Handstone : Gules a fesse betw. 3 huntinghorns or with
 lines arg.
 Hackett : Sab. crusele fiche and three herrings hariant arg.
 Lewston : Gules three browne bills propper armed arg.
 Urry : . . .
 Vecre as some of those before tooke armes in imitation of
 D'Evercy vizt. as I have seene in manie scales vizt. 3
 cressants and a quarter ; the colours I cannot find.

Next to Brimpton you shall see

PRESTON.

Which though it be a member of Evell as parish hereto yet hath it other members belonging unto it. The principall manor hath the addition of Preston Plucknett as once being the lands of Alanus Plucknett of whom I have spoken before at Haselbere, yet gave it the sirname of Preston of noe greate note long since worn out, but the greatest creditt of it was that it gave habitation unto John Sturton who being owner of it built that ancient and in those times faire house which still remaines. He was younger son of John Sturton of Sturton in Wiltshire and half-brother to William first Lord Sturton soe created by King Henry the sixth, but whole brother unto Elisa Bewchamp who was great grandmother to Henry the seventh King of this land. This John Sturton married three wives, every one of them an inheritrix and by every one of them left one daughter heire to their mothers and coheire to his estate. The eldest as erstwhile I tooke you, married to John Sidenham¹ of Brimpton in her right, the second to John Hill² of Spaxton by one of whose heires generall married to John Cheyney a faire estate descended to the ancient and noble family of Walgreaves now of Norfolk

¹ Escaet 12 E. 4.

² Ibid. 13 H. 6.

but heretofore of Walgreave in Northamptonshire, who amongst divers manors enjoy this Preston untill this present ; the third daughter of John Sturton was married unto Sir William Dawbuny of theis parts. [See note in 'Som. and Dors. N. & Q.,' I. 205.]

At the east end of this Preston stands an Hamlett called Bermondsy which name it tooke as (together with Stone adjoining where the Hundred Courts for the Hundred of Stone are kept) belonging to the Priory of Bermonsey in Southwarke neare London which house sayes one¹ was founded by William the first, but I should as soone if not sooner believe John Stowe, who being borne in London and haveing long time survayed it tells me plainlie that one Alwine Child a citizen in the yeare of grace 1081 was founder of it, and that not long after vizt. 1417 the fifth yeare of King Henry the fifth Thomas Thetford then Priour of Bermondsey commenced a suite in Chancery against the King for these two manors in which he gott the better and the King the worst. [For Preston, see 'Historical Notes on South Somerset,' ch. vi.]

Sturton : As before.

Sidenham : As before.

Hill : Gules a saltier vare between four mulletts arg.

Cheyney : Gules five fussels in fesse arg., on each a scallop sable.

Waldgrave : Per pale arg. and gules.

Dawbuny : Gules five fussels in fesse arg.

Bermondsey Priory : . . .

It will be time for us now to withdraw back to Hamden Hill whence I have not only drawne your eyes but minds a while, and even in our returne wee meet with

HOUNDSTON.

Parish unto Odcombe which for that it makes soe little show nowe, I will show you what it was heretofore. This in Edward the first's time was the cheife seate of Sir Roger de Puttiford whose seale of Armes annexed to a deede dated the two and twentieth of Edward the first I have seene,² and for the strangeness will show it you as plaine as I can. The seale

¹ Polieicon lib. 7, cap. 4.

² cart Jo. Sidenham arg., modo dom. de Houndston.

instead of an oval or round was a plaine Escutcheon having in it a plaine crosse the lower part only fide, and on a border this inscription vizt., 'Sigillum Rogeri de Puttiford.' This Sir Roger had John de Puttiford of Houndston who left two daughters his heires. Theis sold their place unto Sir Thomas West, and his sonne not long after unto Sir John de Cary, a judge under Richard the second, and one of those who, being convicted of many crimes, was the eleaventh of the same Kinges raigne by Parliament attainted. Two years after the same King by his Letters Pattent¹ granted this Houndston to John Hull or Hill whose ancestors tooke that sirname from a place not farr off, and his posterity joyning in marriage with the heire generalle of Sir Thomas Fitchett of Spaxton in this County removed thither, leaveing Houndston to a second brother ancestor to theis Hills which now flourish in Cornwall where they seated themselves by the daughter and heire of Thomas Flammocke of Heligan and exchanged Houndston for lands in those parts with the Sidenhams neere neighbours and now owners of it.

Puttiford : see the seale above.

West : Arg. a fesse indented sab.

Cary : Arg. on a bend sa. three roses arg.

Hill : Gules a saltier vare betw. four mullets arg.

Fitchett : Gules a Lyon ramp. or, a bendlett ermin.

Flammocke : Arg. a cross betw. four mulletts gules.

See 'Historical Notes on South Somerset,' ch. v.

But if I loose my guide in this manner I may chance to loose myselfe, wherefore after this digression I will entreat your company once more over Hamden hill and it will not be long ere we meet the River Parrett at

PETHERTON.

Where I shall stay you long enough to recover your former walke if not too long. The place takes name from the river Parrett called also heretofore Pedred, whence the Saxons called it Pedridan, as they did certaine grounds seated neare the same River neere Bridgewater Pedredham, and the very issue of it into the sea Pedridaromouthe. This Petherton Pederton or

¹ Pat. dat. 13 R. 2.

Pereton choose you which, hath bin of farr greater note then now, for at it stood the Royall Palace of the West Saxon Kinge Ina; and by it passed the Roman consular waye called Fosse which the River Parrett cutts it sunder where it is now joyned by a faire stone bridge, at the end of which I have seene graven on a stone the effigies of the founder and his wife, now much defaced by lewde people, and the memory of them for want of an inscription lost.

For amplifications and corrections of the text, the reader is referred to Dr. Norris's 'History of South Petherton,' and the same author's articles in 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' Vols. I.-III.

The demi-figures still remain in the parapet of the bridge, and, according to Collinson, commemorate two children supposed to have been drowned in the river at that spot.

This bridge stands halfe a mile East of the towne, in our way to which lye divers hamlettes belonging unto Petherton. The first of them is

BRIDGE.

Soe called as seated neere unto y^e bridge which I presume gave sirname to Henry de Brughe, of whom I find in the booke of Breuton often a witness to deeds of Henry the third and Edward the first's time. This was a member of Wikeborow and not long sithence by one of the three daughters and coheires of John Broome it descended unto Brome Johnson who built a pritty house at it now falen to other families by his grandchildren and heires. Then come wee to

WEEKBURGHE.

Which together with lands in Pegnesse and Chilton neere Bridgewater were held of the King in Petty serjeanty, vizt.:

Per servitium essendi Ostiarius Aule domini Regis et redendi per manus Vicecomitis XLs. ad festum Sancti Michaelis.¹

This tenure was the cause that I have seene many of them in the leiger of Brewton before spoken of very anciently written Ostrarii de Wigber, as Johannes Ostiarius de Wigber, and others before the date of writings; but soone after they leavinge their official name betook themselves to their locall for Richard de

¹ Esc. 55 H. 3.

Wigber held it in King Henry the third's time, and left two sonnes Sir William de Wigbere that dyed without issue, and Sir Richard his brother and heire, whose seale of Armes I have seene annexed to divers his deeds before Edward the thirds time; and the last the first yeare of his reigne shewing plainly a Lyon rampant, but the Cullers I could never yet find. This Sir Richard de Wigber left one only daughter Mary the wife of Sir Richard Cogan,¹ from whom by y^e Lord Fitzwarren and Hankford it descended to the Earle of Bathe; one of which sithence sold it to John Brome, whose coheire brought it to James Compton² a gentleman of ancient descent as elsewhere you may see. Theis having parted with their former house seated themselves here untill a coheire of the last owner H. Compton brought it to her next neighbour and kinsman Emorbe Jonstone the sonne of Brome Johnston but now spoken of, whose daughters' children now owne it. A little from this crossing the Fosse wee meet with

STRATTON.

Named from standing on the street for soe called they anciently those highwayes; and

RADWELL.

From Roadwell which also tooke name from the said Road. Theis were the possessions of Osbert de Bathonia or de Bath a feodary of William de Albaniaco then Lord of Pereton, and witness to a Charter of confirmacon of the Church of Pereton to the monks of Brewton which Kinge Henry the second had given them.³ This Osbert had Reginald⁴ unto whom King Henry the third gave certaine lands in Compton Durvile which Mannor fell to him upon y^e conviccon of Eustace de Durvile⁵ as by and by you shall hear. He had a second Reginald de Bathon⁶ father of Osbert and he of one daughter named Eliza⁷ married unto William de Weyland called after in Brewton booke William the sonne of Osbert, when indeed he was but the sonne in lawe. This man founded a Chantry in the Chappell of Stratton, the place it seemes he repaired unto, for his mansion house as the

¹ Esch. 42 E. 3.

³ Regist. de Brewton.

⁶ 1 E. 3.

² Cannington.

⁴ Esc. 39 II. 3.

⁷ Regist. super Will. fil. Osberti.

⁵ 24 E. 1.

former Inquisiçōns say was at the Moore or Hassockmore. Theis lands and this house descended unto Sir William de Weyland grandchild of William Fitzosbert by his sonne Robert whose only child Peter at his death dyed soone after his father ; upon whose death a controversie arose about those lands, for an Inquisiçōn taken the twelveth of Richard the second sayes that Catherine, and Robert sonne of Margery, sisters of Sir John de Weyland were his heires ; but another Inquisiçōn taken three years after by a Writt of ' melius inquirendum ' sayes that Jone of the age of six yeares Cozen of Peter sonne of Sir John de Weyland was his heire, who was after married unto Sir John. . . . In our progress about Petherton wee meet with Compton Durville.

COMPTON DURVILL.

Which Eustace de Durvill in the beginning of King Henry the third's time forfeited, being convicted of felony and hanged for it ; the same King graunted the major part of Compton and the Mansion House unto Sir Humphrey le Keele,¹ whose posterity florished untill Henry the fifth his time, when the heire generall was marryed unto John Pawlett, whose two sonnes dying issuelss, a kinsman claimed the estate and left it to daughters married into Cornewall where you shall many times find their Armes being quarterly imbattled sa. and arg. quartered ; but heere or heerabout now dwells Mr. Lisle descended, as appears by his Armes, of a noble stocke, and from an heire generall of a younger sonne of the Dawbunyes Lords of Petherton ; to which place ere wee come lett us look upon the last hamlett (for all theis were members of Pereton, and those that held them feodaries of the Dawbunyes Lords of it) which is

DRAYTON.

Which well deserves remembrance, for that it was originally the seate of the ancient familie of Mollins which after arrived at the Honnour of Barons. Theis deduced their descent from Selanus de Molendino, for soe find I him written in the Register of Brewton to which Priory Alice his wife gave with the consent of Nicholas her sonne and heire, certaine lands in Petherton

¹ Esc. 44 E. 3 ; 7 R. 2. ; 13 R. 2. ; 1 H. 5.

the deed dated 1289 vizt. the sixteenth of Edward the first, which Henry de Molend. brother and heire of Nicholas the very next heire confirmed.¹ Henry was father of John de Mollins for soe were they now written, whom succeeded Henry his sonne, and John his grandchild the last that lived here; for he left his estate to two daughters whether to please his wife that brought him part of it I doe not know; I am sure he had a sonne or els the Jury which found the Inquisicōn after his death weere much mistaken, for their return is:

Juratores dicunt super sacramentum suum &c. quod Johannes Molins tent. die quo obiit terr' in South Petherton Drayton Lopen Bridge &c. et quod Johannes Molins est filius et heres dicti Johannis propinquior etatis septem annorum, et quod Thomasina uxor Johannis Wivelscomb una et Alicia uxor Johannis Florye altera filiarum dicti Johannis et Alicie sunt heredes predictorum Johannis et Alicie per formam doni, et quod ista Alicia fuit filia Johannis [*sic*] uxoris Thome de Crawthorne.

This John Molins thus disinherited repaired these losses by his wife, heire to Sir John Mauduit of Somerford in Wilts, and by her mother coheire to Richard le Pogeys of Stoke Pogeys in Buckinghamshire, and having found such hard measure from his owne father, left his Armes being sab. on a chefe arg. three fussels gules, and betooke himselfe to his wife's which were gules three pales indented or, as I have seene in many seales of the said Sir John Mauduit, and not pale wavy or and gules, as of latter time some have supposed. From this John descended William Lord Molins in Henry the sixth his time, who left but Elianor his heire married to Robert Lord Hungerford both which honourable titles still remaine in the Earle of Huntingdon descended from Hungerford's heire.

I had thought I had done with the suberbs if I may soe call them of Pereton, but had almost forgotten the Lournays a family of knights degree who lived neere it and were feodaries of it, of whom I have found frequent mention in the booke soe often mentioned; namely Sir William de Lourney,² of Sir Walter de Lourney his sonne, of Richard his sonne, and Walter de Lourney his sonne who married with Joane daughter and heire of John de Stafford and widow of William de Crawthorne by whom he had an estate hereabout, and a sonne named John,

¹ Esc. 6 E. 3; 12 E. 3; 34 E. 3.

² For this family, rectius Loveny, see Muchelney Chartulary, S.R.S. Vol. XIV.

the husband of Joan Attlodge and sometimes de Lodge, onlie daughter of John Attlodge whiche name his predecessors gott by liveing at a lodge neere Cherdstoke in Dorset, who made him father of onc only daughter Alice married to William Jourdan named from and liveing at Jourdan neare Ilminster in this tract ; which his eldest daughter and coheire Joane brought to her husband Edward Muttlebury and which his successors enjoy untill this day, as other lands fell by Margaret the second daughter unto William Estmond from whom many yet liveing are descended. Having thus surrounded

SOUTH PETHERTON,

As wee now call it, wee will looke into it if you please, and I shall intreat you to looke backe upon my supposicon concerning the antiquity of it. As for the kinge's house, wee are beholding to Histories to tell us here was one here, and to tradicon to point out the place, for the very footings of it are soe farr lost that noe man would ever believe a pallace stood in that place, which they shew us, being something south of the church. The onlie thing worth note that I have found in the towne, for it is faire and well built, haveinge in the midst of the crosse a high bell tower and square, furnished with a good and goodly quire of six bells. This kind of towers I have found in divers places in this Countie, and as I suppose were built in imitacon of the Jewish temples whose towers were even round, and theis come as neere unto them as possibly with square dealing they can.¹ This church mett with two good benefactors: the first the priour of Bruton, unto whom King Henry the second gave it, as his charter following transcribed out of their leiger will shewe. The second, their ancient Lords, I meane the Dawbunies who though they lived at Barrington as I shall presently shew, yet buried here, for the two crosse Isles are full of their graves, and though there remaine but one Alter Tombe of them inlayd with brasse, yet the windowes shew their Armes and matches in manie places. This church before it came to the Priour's fingers was endowed with divers lands and rents which noe doubt made them the more willing to gett it.

¹ Gerard should have written octagonal instead of square, but seems to have been led away by the chance of making a quip. These kind of towers are found in South Somerset to the number of eleven, from Bishop's Hull to Weston Bampfild.

Amongst theis I have found mention of one Walter de Maine, who confirmed the guift of his ancestors unto the Church of St. Peter in Pereton, and had for witnesses to it Cicely the Countesse his wife,¹ William de St. Lupo and many others. If you should ask mee who this Countesse was, of what place I protest I cannot tell, though I have bestowed more labour then a wise man would in seeking after it, but by speaking thus much I hope some good Antiquary will resolve me. In the meane time I will shew you the charter of Kinge Henry the second before promised.

Henricus Dei gratia Rex Anglie Dux Normandie et Aquitanie, et Comes Andegavie, Archiepiscopis Episcopis Abbatibus Comitibus Baronibus Justitiariis Vicecomitibus et omnibus Ministris et fidelibus suis Salutem: Sciatis me dedisse et presenti carta mea confirmasse Canonicis de Brewton Ecclesiam de Pereton in liberam et perpetuam Eleemosinariam cum omnibus pertinentiis suis; Quare volo et firmiter precipio quod predicti Canonici predictam Ecclesiam de Pereton habeant et teneant bene et in pace libere et quiete plenarie integre et honorifice, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinariis suis. Teste Richardo Winton, Gaufr. Eliensi, et Sefr^o Cistrensi Episcopis; Gaufr. Cancellario filio meo,² magistro Waltero de Const. Oxenford Archidiacon., Ranulfo de Glanville, Hugone de Morewich, Waltero filio Roberti, Rogero de Portis, R. de Waterfeild, apud Wintoniam.

Though this Charter were large enough, yet the Monkes who ever loved to have two stringes to their bowes, had soe little confidence in the Kinge's grant that they could not be in quiet untill they had gotten it confirmed by Phillipp de Albaniaco then Lord of Petherton who also freed them from suite unto his Hundred of Petherton.

This is now a little Markett towne on the Saturdaies, but I cannot comend the beauty of the one, or frequence of the other. Sithence the Dawbunies parted with it, which was in Henry the eight's time, when Henry Dawbuny Earle of Bridgewater parted with his whole estate, it hath acknowledged divers owners; and at this present the Lord Arundell hath the most of it, howsoever the Earle of Hertford hath both a Mannor and Mansion house within it seated on the East part of the towne which

¹ Teste Cecilia uxore mea Comitissa.

² fuit iste Gaulfr. fil. 4 Hen. 2, et dux Brittanie jure uxoris.

now is the dwelling of Mr. Sands descended out of the North Country.

I have foreborn according to my custom to give you the Coates of such as I have named because you shall have them here in grosse, they being all comprised within one parish, yet I will sett them downe in the same order as I named the men because noe man shall take exception at his Marshalling.

- Brudge:
 Brome: Sab. on a cheveron arg. 3 slippes of broome vert.
 Johnston:
 Wigber: A lion rampant, out of a Scale.
 Cogan: Gules 3 leaves argent.
 Fitzwarin: Quarterly the fesse indented arg. and gules.
 Hankford: Gules a cheveron unde arg. and sab.
 The Earle of Bath [Bourchier]: Arg. a crosse ingrailed
 gules betweene 4 water bucketts sab., a labell of
 France.
 Brome: As before.
 Compton: Sab. 3 helmetts within a bordure arg. garnished or.
 Johnston: As before.
 De Bathonia: Or a cheveron ingrailed betweene three lyons
 heads erased sab.
 Weyland: Asure a lyon rampant arg., a bendlett gules.
 Durvill:
 Keyle: Quarterly embattled arg. and sab.
 Pawlett: As before.
 Lisle: Or a fess betweene twoe cheverons sa., a difference.
 Molins: Sab. on a chefe arg. 3 lozenges gules.
 Flory: Asure a cressant arg. betw. 3 flowerdeluces or.
 Mauduit: Gules three pales indented or.
 Hungerford: Sa. two barrs arg., in chefe 3 plates.
 Hastings: Arg. a manch sab.
 Lourney: Cheque arg. and asure on a chefe asure two
 mulletts or.
 Attlodge: Per bend sinister arg. and sab. crusele and a
 Lyon rampant counterchanged.
 Jordan: Az. Crusele and a Lyon rampant or.
 Muttelbury: Ermin on a bend gules three round buckles
 arg., a border of the second.
 Eastmond: Sab. a cheveron betweene 3 starrs arg.

Dawbuny: Gules 5 fussels arg.

Dawbuny: The same within a bendlett asure.

Dawbuny: The first with a labell or.

Add to these if you please other differences which I have scene of them.

Dawbuny: The first with three martletts in chefe arg.

Dawbuny: The first with three mulletts in chefe or.

Sands: Or a fesse dancy [dancetty] betw. 3 crossletts fitch gules.

I have stayed soe long from Armes that I feare I have glutted you with them, but I will serve you soe noe more; rather every place shall carry its owne Coates that I may not overload you by throwing them all upon you at once.

The river Parrett having left this towne leaveth somewhat on y^e West

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMPE.

A principle member of the Barony of Hach with which it came in marriage right unto Sir Roger St. Maur ancestor to William Earle of Hertford still owner of it. At this place besides a mansion house of the Lords now almost ruined, were two frecholds; the first now shewes a sightly house built by the father of Mr. Rose owner of it, who planted himselfe here by match and became owner of the other by purchase, it being before the Cokers who still remaine in Dorsett, and whilst they lived here built an Isle on the North side of the Church as their Armes and Matches besides an inscription now almost torne out, plainely shew.

Beauchampe: Vare.

St. Maure: Gules two winges or.

Rose: Per fesse sab. and [arg.] a pale counterchanged, 3 herons heads rased of the first. This was Heron's coate whose heire they had married.

Coker: Arg. on a bend gules 3 Leopards heads or, a Border ingrayled sa.

See 'Barony of Beauchamp' ('Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXXVI. ii. 20). There is a pedigree of Rose, or rather Rosse, in the Visitation of 1623; see also 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' vi. p. 299. The rebuilding of the church has finally obliterated all memorials of the Cokers.

A very little from this lyes

BARRINGTON.

Heretofore the principall seat of y^e noble family of Dawbeneyes who had at it a goodly house, parke, and all other conveniences for pleasure and profitt, it being seated in a good veyne and yet on a sandy soile. This place was anciently as a member of the parish of South Petherton¹ where they buried, untill Josceline Bishopp of Bathe, for the ease of the Inhabitants being soe farr distant from the mother church, with the assent of the Pryour of Bruton consecrated a Churchyard for the buriall of their Dead in the yeare of grace 1235 being the nineteenth of King Henry the third.

Theis Dawbeneyes came first out of Little Brittain in France which was the cause that some generacons after, they added to their names Brito, for I have seene Willielmus de Albaniaco Brito witnesse to a Charter of King Henry the first made unto the Priour of Bathe;² in which King's time he enjoyed the Castle and Barony of Belvoir in Lincolnshire by descent from the heire of Robert de Todoney formerly Lord of it. This William tooke to wife Maud, daughter of Robert sonne of Richard Lord of Tunbrige and grandchild to Earle Gilbert, by whom he had two sonnes: William whose estate not many descents after came by an heire generall unto Robert Lord Rosse, and from him likewise unto the Earles of Rutland nowe owners of Belvoir Castle; Rafe the second sonne of the former William held (as an Inquisition taken in Henry the seconds time saith) fiftene knights fees of the Barony of William his brother, from him came Rafe de Albaniaco britto his sonne, father of Philip de Albaniaco who was a witnesse to the Constitucons of Merton,³ as also to a Charter of the same king five years sooner, vizt the fiftenth of Henry the third which he granted to Joceline Bishopp of Bathe as a confirmacon of certaine Liberties belonging to his mannor of Cheddar in which very deed he is written Philippus de Albiniaco. He was father of another Rafe who lived much beyond the seas, substituting for his deputie to manage his estate here, Sir William de Cheyney, a man that soe much own'd him that he gave his very Armes

¹ Regist. Bruton.

² Lib. Priorat. Bathon.

³ constitucones isti fuerunt 20 H. 3, a^o. 1236.

of gules five fussels in fesse arg., adding for a difference on each fussell one black escollopp; take if you please one of this Sir William's letters pattents (which for the strangenes may chance to please some of the readers) as I copied it out of the booke soe often mentioned.¹

Universis Christi fidelibus presentes literas visuris vel audituris Willielmus de Cheyney miles Attornatus domini Radulphi de Albaniaco in Anglia salutem. Noverit universitatis vestra quod Prior et Convent. de Breuton finem fecerunt mecum pro domino Radulpho de Albaniaco super quibusdam Eleemosinar. et libertatibus a domino Philippo quondam confirmatis, et a dicto domino Radulpho confirmandis, et pro ista confirmacone dabunt predicti Canonici predicto domino Radulpho quinque marcas argenti et un' doliu' vini, si predictus dominus Radulphus illud recipere voluerit in adventu suo in Angliam. In cujus rei testimonium presentes literas patentes Sigillum meum apposui. Dat. apud Pereton in octabis sancti Johannis Baptiste An^o. Dom. 1251, vizt. 35 H. 3.

But this Rafe returned back into England and lived long after, for he dyed not untill the twentieth of Edw. the first, and left to succed him Sir Philipp de Albaniaco who survived him but two years, and Elias heire to his brother. He was father of Sir Rafe Dawbeney who by his first wife Catherine third sister and coheire of Thomas Thwenge Clarke brother and heire of Sir William de Thwenge knight Lord of Kilton, had one only daughter Eliza: married unto William Lord Botreaux; and [by] his second wife daughter to William Montacute Earl of Sarum (shee was that Agnes that our latter genealogists leave unmarried) he had Sir Giles Dawbeney who was father of a second Giles, and grandfather of a third Sir Giles Dawbeney that by his three wives left but one sonne Sir William Dawbeney, who matched with one of Sturton's heires, by whom he had Sir Giles, and James ancestor to those Dawbeneyes of Wayford and Gorwell still remaining. Sir Giles was soe gracious with King Henry the seaventh that he made him his chamberlain, and twice entrusted his royall Armie under his conduct, once into Scotland, y^e second time into Cornwall against the Fauters of Perkin Warbecke yⁱ pseudo Richard; afterward he created him (in the year 1507) Lord Dawbeney. This man with his wife Elizabeth daughter to Sir John Arundell of Cornwall lye interred under a

¹ Lib. Bruton.

faire tombe in the Collegiate or Abbey Church of Westminster. They left behind them two children, Henry, and Cicely after heire at Common Law, though but to little land who was married to John Earle of Bathe. This Lord Henry not contented with his Father's title procured as some think at a deare rate from King Henry the eight, the title of Earle of Bridgwater, the thirtieth of his raigne. A noble man he was surely, profuse enough both in body and goods, and besides a greate builder as appears by three houses within a few miles he had heere together, eyther of his owne building or enlarging of which his was by much the best. He died without issue which I presume made him the more apt to part with his estate yet was divers yeares married to Catherine the daughter of Thomas Haward Duke of Norff. I have almost brought this family to an end, but shall desire yo' patience a little longer for clearing a doubt which noe doubt a judicious Herauld may make that is how theis Dawbeneys and those Lords of Belvoir can seeme to be of one family seeing their Coates of Armes are soe farr differing. The reasons that I shall give, follow, which I shall leave to the judicious in the ancient manner of assumeing Armes to censure of, and will shew other instances, which are very frequent because I strive as farr as in me lyes to avoid tedious discourse and a large volume.

You remember that a little before, I told you howe William de Albinaco Brito tooke to wife Matilda daughter of Robert younger sonne of Richard and grandchild of Earle Gilbert, who lived in William the firsts time and was progenitor unto the more ancient Earles of Clare and Pembroke, with whom he had large possessions whereupon her eldest sonne William left the auncient Armes of Dawbeney soe often mentioned unto his second brother Rafe progenitor of this family, and assumed unto himselfe Armes taken from his mother's—a thing very usuall in those dayes as any insighted in that facultie cannot deny, observe if you please the manner of varying the Coate. Earle Gilbert and the Earles of Clare descended from him used for their Armes, Or three cheverons gules. The Earles of Pembroke of the same family added for a difference a blew labell of five points. Robert the younger sonne father of Matilda wife of William de Albaniaco, Or a fesse betweene two cheverons gules from whom issued the Lords Fitzwaters; and William sonne of the said Matilda once more changed his Coate into, Or two cheverons within a bordure gules which his posterity as long as they

remained gave. I have bin very tedious heere, but a word or two and we leave it. After the Dawbeneyes left Barrington it was a while the sceate of the Cliftons knights, after that of y^e Phelipps of the same degree, or if you will a degree beyond, for the last of them was a Baronett; and now acknowledges for owner Mr. Strode descended from an ancient family, who bestowed money and labour to restore it to its pristine beautie.

Dawbeney: Gules five fussels in fess arg.

Clifton: Sab. seme de cinquefoiles and a Lyon rampant arg.

Phelipps: Arg. a cheveron betw. three roses gules, a difference.

Strode: Ermine a canton sab., on it a difference.

In spite of this account, I am informed that there are still obscurities in the descent from the Todenies of Belvoir to Ralph d'Albiniaco of Barrington. Barrington Court will ere long be only a memory of the past, though from its excellent material and workmanship, it still preserves a decent and picturesque exterior. The links between Phelips and Strode will be found in a paper by J. Batten, Esq., 'Additional Notes on Barrington and the Strodes' ('Som. Arch. Proc.', XXXVII. ii. 40). William Strode, owner of the Court in 1633, played a very considerable part in the local opposition to the King both before and after the Rebellion (see 'Proc.', XXX. ii. 62, and XXXVII. ii. 15).

LAMBROOKE:

Is the next place the river Parrett brings us unto, which acknowledgeth for Lords the Bishopps of Wells, divided into two or three hamletts. One of them gave the sirname of Lambrooke unto a Family aunciente enough, which tooke an end in Robert Lambrooke,¹ for he left for his heire John Radbert sonne of Catherine his only daughter whose posteritie enjoyed it and dwelt there.

Lambrooke: Pale wave of 6 arg. and sa., on a chefe sab. three cressants arg.

Radberd: Or a cheveron betweene 3 bulls passant sab.

It is really part of Kingsbury Episcopi (see *post*). A delimitation of the bounds of Kingsbury in Anglo-Saxon, preserved in the Muchelney chartulary, includes Lambrooke. The arms of that family and Rodbard are carved on the magnificent tower of the church. On the impaled shield Lambrooke appears on the dexter half instead of Rodbard, which is also found singly. The Lambrooke impaled coat has no chief. It is carved thus on the sinister half of another shield, and on the dexter half are a crescent in base and a

¹ Esc. 7 H. 5.

billet in pale upon another crescent, which seems an inaccurate rendering of the whole coat.

On the East side of the River and not farr from it wee see

MERTOCKE.

A place seated in the fattest place of the Earth of this Countie, especially for errable which makes y^e inhabitants soe fatt in their purses; but as for their bodies, hard labour and a temperate dyett is the Phisicke they use to keepe themselves in health. This Mannor was heretofore¹ of the ancient demesne of the Crowne;² which if you will knowe what it is once for all, I shew you soe much as a Lawyer who should know it, hath showed me.

Ancient demesnes, saith he, be certaine tenures holden of those Mannors that were in the hands of Edward the Confessor before the Conquest. Theis tennants by their tennure were bound to plough and husband the King's demesnes before and in the Conquest time, in regard whereof they enjoyed many priviledges vizt., that they were not impleaded out of their own mannor; they were freed from paying tolls throughout all England for all things touching their own provisions; they were free from all taxes, they were not to be impannelled in the County or at y^e Assisses, and many other freedoms, which the tenure and with that the priviledges nay and the very demesnes themselves are altered and lost, it will be but lost labour for me to write.

I will therefore betake myselfe unto Martocke, which immediately after the Conquest fell to Eustace Earle of Bulloigne, who had married Mawde, daughter to Godfry duke of Lovayne and sister to Adiliza wife unto King Henry the first, by whom he had William de Bolonia, and Mawde wife unto Stephen after King of England, whose youngest sonne William Earle of Bolone, after his brethren his heire, passed this Mertoicke unto his kinsman Pharamatius de Bolonia, as this Charter following will shew.—

Willielmus Comes Bolonie omnibus Baronibus Ministris et fidelibus suis de horie³ qui fuit Eustacii avi nostri in Anglia sive extra Angliam Salutem. Sciatis me donasse Pharamutio de

¹ lib. Doomsday.

² Will. Burton descrip. of Leicestershire.

³ So in MSS., but probably an error for 'honore.'

Bolonia cognato meo Mertocke Manerium meum in feodo et hereditario tenend' sibi et heredibus suis de me de heredibus meis ; Quare volo et firmiter precipio quod illud bene et in pace et honorifice, sicut ego et antecessores mei tenuimus, teneat in bosco et in plano pratis et pasturis terris et aquis, et hominibus et omnibus pertinentiis per servitium unius militis. Teste Isabella Comitissa uxore mea, Pagano de Bulley, Aulto. Masse Cantore et aliis.

This deed was after by King Henry the second when he attayned the Crowne confirmed. I have seene the seale of this Pharomutius the sonne of William de Bolonia affixed to his deede without date, shewing a man rideing on horsebacke all armed in male (a fashion very usuall among greate men in those dayes), and on his pavis or shield a crosse flory. He left an only daughter Isabell married unto Ingelram de Fines or Feiules for soe often times I have seene him written. This man was slain at Acon whilst he followed King Richard the first in those warres, but left two sonnes to succeed him : Ingelram that dyed issulesse, and William de Feiueles who was father of a third Ingelram, unto whom King Henry the third¹ by his letters pattents confirmed this Martocke and divers other landes, which Henry late King of England his grandsfather had graunted unto Farumuse de Bolonia Ingelram's greate grandfather. This man was summoned as a Baron to y^e Parliament in Henry the thirds time duringe which time he dyed, leavinge for his heire his sonne William de Fines² a Noble Baron father of John that fallinge in disgrace with King Edward the second had his lands taken from him of which this Mertocke was part ; but his posterity soone reflourished having gotten a goodly inheritance by matchinge with the heires of Sir John Moccaux of Hurst Moccaux in Sussex, William Lord Say, and Thomas Lord Dacres, by meanes whereof one branch of them flourished under the title of Lord Dacres of the Southe, whose heire generalle brought that honour unto her sonne Sir Henry Leonard ; and another branch of them to this daye enjoy the title of Lord Say and Seale ; but I have strayed beyond my boundes in tracing this family into other Countries. I will therefore return to my object Martocke which falling to the King as you have heard, Edward the third not long after granted it unto William Montacute whom three yeares before he had created Earle of Salisbury, but

¹ Pat. dat. 17 H. 3.

Esc. 30 E. 1.

his sonne William Earle of Salisbury leaving noe issue, a greate estate after his death, as the Inquisition quoted will show, part of which was this Martocke, fell to John Beauford Earle of Somersett father of John Duke of Somersett, whose only heire was wedded unto Edmund Earle of Richmond, father and mother of Henry Earle of Richmond after King of England by the name of Henry the seaventh; but whilst his kinsman Edward the fourth raigned, he had soe little trust in him that he fledd into little Brittain as in his story you may see at large; whereupon the King seising his estate conferred Martocke on Sir Thomas Stanley whom he made Lord Steward of his house and knight of the Garter, and whom Henry the seaventh, whose mother he had marryed, created Earle of Darby the firste year of his raigne. This Earle Thomas left Martocke to his youngest sonne Edward Lord Monteagle from whom by heires it fell to the Lord Morley if not now yet very late owner of it; thus much for the Lordes of Mertocke.

TUDOR

See 'The Counts of Boulogne as English Lords,' in J. H. Round's 'Peerage and Family History,' 1901.

As regards the descent of the manor, after the death of William, second Earl of Salisbury, without issue, it came to his nephew John; and after his attainder in 1399, fell to the King, and was granted to Beaufort. Collinson says that Lord Morley sold the reversion of several large farms to sixty of his tenants, and in 1637 sold the manor to William Strode of Barrington.

The two chantries have utterly disappeared. Otterington is in Devonshire, and was a cell to the Priory of Mount St. Michael beyond the seas.

As for place it is seated as before I have said, in a passing riche soile, inhabited by wealthy and substantiall men though none of the best bredd; which is the cause their neighbours about them are apt enough to slaunder them with the title of clownes, but they care not much for that, knowing they have money in their purses to make them gentlemen when they are fitt for the degree. I assure you I have not seene any men of their ranke sett soe highe in the kinge's bookes or to any other charge for the kinges service as they are, wherefore we must needs allow them for very good subjects.

The Parish of Martock is very large comprising in it the whole hundred; yet have they but one Church, but that very large faire and of a seemly structure, under which there are divers chappells, and unto which in former times adjoynd two Chauntries, the first founded and endowed by John Say¹ whose

¹ Inq. de quo ad damn. capt. 18 E. 2.

house and lands called Sayes Place came after to the Bonvilles ; the other as I conjecture by the Widcombes of whom I shall speake presently, because I have seene their Armes of Ermine two barres wave gules a bendlett gobone or and asure soe often inserted in it both in stone timber and glasse.

As for the Priour of Oteringdon beyond the Seas¹ who^r held here ten messuages with the appurtenances and halfe the greater tithes, I doe not find they expended any of their money in that kind.

Not farr from the Church on the Southeast of it stood heretofore the Mansion or Mannor house moated about, heretofore as it should seeme large, but now almost all lett run to ruine, sithence the Lords leased out their demcasnes ; that part which now remaines gives habitacon unto Braye Vincent a gentleman of good descent.

Many hamletts belonged unto Martocke, of which the Lord owned Hurst, Henton, and Cotes ; and others, Ashe, Widcombe, Milton, Load, and Stapleton ; which all were held of the Lords of Martocke. Of some of theis I will give you such notes as I have gathered, but before, for feare of runing into an inconvenience which not long since I found, take if you please such Coates as belong to this past discourse.

De Bolonia : a Cross flury, as in y^e scale before named.

Fiueles : Asure 3 Lyons rampant or.

Montacute : as before.

Somerset [Beaufort] : Quarterly France and England, a border gobone arg. and asure.

Stanley : Arg. on a bend asure three bucks heads caboshed or.

Morley : Arg. a Lyon rampant sab. crowned or.

Parker : Sa. a stag's head caboshed between two flaunches arg.

Vincent : Asure 3 quaterfoyles arg., a difference.

ASHE.

Shalbe the first of theis places that I will begin withall. This was anciently called Ashe-Bolonie, rather as I suppose from the Lords of Martocke but now spoken of, of the house of Bulloigne ; though I acknowledge I have seene in the Collections

¹ Inq. capt. 6 H. 4.

of one¹ who hath spent much time that way, a family it seemes issuing from the maine branche sirnamed Bolonia made owner of it untill his heire generall brought it unto Richard Pike, and for his Armes sett a Pale asure and sab. 3 cheverons or. I believe the Pikes have bin aunciently Lords of this place, whence it tooke the name of Pikes Ashe, for I have found mention in old writings² of Richard Pike, before date, of a second Richard in Edward the firsts time, of Sir Richard Pike knight the fourteenth of Edward the third, and of another Sir Richard Pike his sonne, in Richard the second's time. The two knights I am sure used in their scales of armes three Cheverons, but that ever de Bolonia did I have not found, but what their scale was you may see but a leafe or two backe. However theis Pikes after gave other armes vizt. Sab. 3 fire pikes or forkes or. This family injoyed this and other faire meanes untill our fathers daies; when by what is to me unknowne, they lost it, and as it was shrewdly suspected one his life, and his sonne his name; but this is againe in triall and therefore I will not speake any more of it.

I will conclude with Peter de Fauconbridge, who held (as a Record in Edw. the third's time saies³) certaine lands here, 'Per servitium reddendo custodibus Ecclesie de Mertoche tres lampades ardentes Ecclesie quatuor in anno.' I shall not need to sett downe anie Armes here seeing I have already specified them: wee will therefore borrow one of Peter Fauconbrige his lampes (for they use them not in the Church now) to light us to Milton Fauconbrige.

This place appears to have been settled upon a younger son of the lord of Martock, for Pharamus de Bolonia was pledge for a wrong-doer in Ashe at the Assizes in 1242 (S.R.S., XI. 1067), at which date Ingelram de Fiennes was also a landowner in Martock. Richard de Boloyne was a landowner here 1254 (*op. cit.* 1501). He was probably the owner at the taking of Kirby's Quest. In 'Nomina Villarum, 1317,' Richard Pyke was owner. He had a moiety of the manor by the gift of Joan, late wife of Richard Pyke, qu. his father (Ped. Fin., 3 Ed. II. No. 36). Gerard was distinctly chary about mentioning any matters which were 'before the Court.'

MILTON FAUCONBRIGE.

The cheife place of their residence, and which from them tooke the addiccon to the name. How long they injoyed it

¹ Sir W. P.

² Cart. Geo. Horsey milit.

³ Inq. 23 E. 3.

aunciently I know not. The first mention that I have found of them was of William de Fauconbrige¹ father of this John² in whom it came to an end for he as the Inquisition taken after his death hath, left Thomas Lutterell his cosen and heire ; but Milton fell first to the Gurneys, after to Tiptoft, then to the Duke of Somerset, and in Queen Maries dayes to Thomas Marow a famous Lawyer, since to the Dyers, and now to I know not whom.

Almost as many changes hath

WIDCOMBE

Indured, which the old Lords of Martocke gave unto an especiall man, from it called 'de Widcombe,' having gotten his Lord's name Pharamutius at the font before. His posterity remayned long here, and it seemes by their Armes as but even now I noted were founders of one of those two Chauntries in Mertok Church. One thing is observable in this family, that when in Edward the seconds time, John and Thomas younger sonnes of Walter de Widcombe and brothers unto another Walter, dwelt in Crewkerne, they from the place were called de Crewkerne ; from the second of which the Crewkernes late of Childhey were descended. Theis men left not only their father's name but his Armes, for whereas Widcombe gave Ermine two barrs wave gules a bendlett gobone or and asure ; the first of the second younger brothers tooke Arg. a fess betweene six martletts sab., the second Arg. on a cheveron gules betw. 3 bugle hornes sab. three crosletts fiche, the second side ones transposed the length of the cheveron, arg., for were they not so transposed, it were the Armes of Brett forester of Blackmore ; but an heire generall of the eldest house as I believe was married unto Buckland and his unto Sir John Sidenham of Brimpton whose sonne enjoyed lands hereabouts by that match.

Martocke affords nothing els worth the noteing that hath come within my reache, save

STAPLETON.

Which many ages belonged unto the St. Clares, and after to the Bonviles who injoyed faire possessions hereabouts and rose

¹ Nöia Villar. 7 E. 2.

² Peter really.

to greate honnour. Their armes of sab. 6 mulletts arg. you shall frequently meet withall at Martocke Church, but wee have done with this place whence our guide the River immediately brings us to

KINGSBURY.¹

Which gives name to the Hundred wherein it stands and by that arrogates a more than ordinary respect, for one well sighted in Chorography² is of opinion that place which gives name to the Hundred was in those times of greatest note, howsoever many of them [are] since decayed and almost ruined. That it takes name from kings is certaine, but that they had a house at it were a vayne conjecture, seeing Petherton on the one side and Somerton on the other afforded them houses, I meane the Westsaxon kings. Here is adjoyning unto it a Beorghe or Burghe, for soe our ancestors called rownd heapes or hills of Earthe, called at this day Borowhill of an eminent height and which its probable enoughe was an hold or fort. It hath now on the topp a Beacon. This place before the Conquest³ with the Hundred belonged unto the Cathedrall Church of Wells by the guift I thinke of Ina king of the Westsaxons, who in the yeare of grace 704 built a Colledge here which was after converted into a Cathedrall Church. Theis enjoyed it untill Edward the sixth his time—when Bishopricks were like to fare little better then Abbeys had done in his fathers raigne, for then with other faire revenewes was it swept away from the Church by one that lay exceeding heavy on it, upon whose attaynder not long after it fell unto the Crowne, and hath bin farmed out for lives untill of late yeares it was passed unto the Earle of Barks.

More I have seene nothing worth noting, save a faire Church and a very high and handsome bell tower seated in a fowle place, which is seene a farr of in all the flatts or moores; through which the river Parrett passinge begins to make the Island or rather Peney Insula called

MUCHELNEY.

By interpretacon from the Saxons language the greate Island where many ages since, the religious kinge Athelstan built an

¹ 'Kinsbury,' MSS.

² Lambert, perambulacon of Kent.

³ Lib. Doomsday.

Abbey for blacke Monckes. The time of the founda^con is not precisely to be found yet by guesse about the yeare of grace 936. The place I will leave to Polidor Vergil¹ to describe in his own words :

Postremo Athelstannus magno imperio potitus omne studium ad Religionem colendam, et pacem fovendam suorumque comodum augend. contulit, quippe duo edificavit cenobia monachorum ordinis divi Benedicti, alterum apud Meltoniam² pagum Sarisburiensis diocesis, alterum ad Micelnia vicum Somerseti Comitatus, loco palustri ut ne monachi forte hiemi presertim vagarentur contra atque lex ordinis jubet, quando ipse locus eo tempore adire vix potest nisi navicula possessionibus ; utrumque locuple-
tavit &c. thus farr Polidor.

What those lands were which Michelney had, Doomsday booke will shew you.

Ecclesia sancti Petri de Micelney tenet Ilminster, et hec tria Insula [sic], Michelney Midleton et Tournay.³

Where the Island called Midleton was I cannot find but Tournay lyeth sure on the West of Muchelney separated by the River Parrett and bounded on the other side by the River Ilc, for the bridge by which men passe over Parrett unto Muchelneye is to this day called Thornybridge. The Abbotts and Monckes in succeeding ages well increased their renewes, for at y^e Dissolu^con in King Henry the eight's daies when all such houses came to an end, it was vallewed when such lands were vallewed as I may say at Robinhood's pennyworths at 489 li. per annum. The very ruines of the Monastery and that Church are now ruined and in the place of them you may see though an ill place a resonable parish and Church for which they were beholding to the Abbotts, who also procured it to be a free Mannor or franchise of itselfe, though now it be conjoynd to Pitney another of the same kind.

The reader may be referred to the introduction and notes on the Chartulary of Muchelney Abbey, S.R.S., XIV., for the early history of the Abbey, which was most probably founded in the reign of King Inc. Middle-
ney is close by in the parish of Drayton.

Passing by this Island wee come to

¹ Polidor Verg.

² Midleton or Milton in Com. Dors.

³ Lib. Doomsday.

LAMPOR.

As wee call it for Langport, for that it hath bin a port its probable enoughe, and something you shall hear of it before I go thence. This was anciently a member of the Barony of Lorty, written in old deeds de Urtiaco, and was part of the Mannor and franchise of Putney Lortie not farr of where sometimes theis Barons lived, but I thinke at Summer for in Winter it is almost uninhabitable. The name shoves the nature well enoughe, Putney with the Saxons intimateing the Myry or durty Iland, for with them putte was soft dyett, which name wee still conserve in a wett and liquid mortar for cementing stones together by Masons called Puttey.

It seemes Langport florished in King Henry the firsts time, for otherwise I thinke that King would not have made choise of it for the scite of soe goodly an Abbey as Leland¹ tells us he intended, if he could have wonn the Monkes of Montacute to have forsaken their old seate and removed thither; but faileing in that, left them where he found them and built his Monastery at Redding.

The very name shewes that this was anciently a port or inland haven, the River then being large enough noe doubt to bring up vessells of some burthen as it doth barges at this day; but the bridge built or began in Richard the first's daies at Bridgewater by William de la Brewer then owner of it, stopped all shippes from passinge any further, to their great benefitt, but losse of Langport which neverthelesse the inhabitants strived to repaire by confining the River within Walls and straighter bounds, by meanes whereof they recovered a greate quantity of very riche land which they injoy at this present; for proof taste if you please this following deed, of the same King's time² as I conjecture.

Sciunt presentes et futuri quod Ego Ricardus de Hope dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Simoni de Echingham et heredibus suis vel cui dare vendere vel assignare voluerit, preter domu. religiosis decem acras terre in nova terra de Langport que Marisc. Robertus de Ambervilla, Fulco de Echingham, et Stephanus de Alvington incluserunt simul cum fossis vizt. quinque acras jacentes inter terram meam versus Austrum et terram de

¹ Leland, Commentaries.² tempore R. 1.

Langport versus aquilonem inter terras Thome filii Galfridi versus occidentalem, et extendit usque ad veterem wallam versus orien., et quinque acras jacentes inter veterem stratam versus Austrum et Wallam versus Aquilonem &c.¹

. But it will be nedeles to transcribe the whole seeing I have alreadie shewed you not only such a thing done but the time when, and the doers of it, and of those I dare not say that Robert de Ambrevill was owner of those lands in this County called the Barony of Ambrevile, which being escheated to the foresaid King Richard the first, he gave unto William de Wrotham, and yett both name and time seem to concurre.

You find by the former deed that in those times it had both old walls and old streets, and an Inquisition taken the eighteenth of Edward the third² tells me that there was a Markett at Lamport Eastover, and a faire at Langport Westover for being divided by the River they were soe distinguished, but are conjoined in one by a faire stone bridge, where is the common unloading place for barges and such vessels as bring up commodities from Bridgwater or elsewhere. The towne as now it is, is not very beautifull, but seemes to have bin larger, only there remains a faire stronge gatehouse on the Eastside very artificially vaulted over and furnished with a tower on the topp. Their markett is on Saturday well furnished with fowle in the winter time, and full of pect eles as they call them, because they take them in those waters by pecking an eale speare on them where they lye in their beds but I cannot comend the goodness of them; marry the fowle is fetched hence farr and neere, but the waters being abroad such as are sent for it many times missing the Cawsway goe a fishing instead of getting fowle.

At this Lamport lived one Herne survayor to King Henry the eight whose benevolence to the Church deserves to be remembered, for it seemes he new built the most part of it seeing his Armes of parte per fesse arg. and sab. a pale counterchanged three hernes head erased of the first are seene almost on all the pillars there, and in it he lies intombed and left two daughters his heires—married to Sidenham of Chelworthy in his wives right, and Rosse ancestor to those of Shepton who to this day give his Armes.

¹ cart. in custod. Tho. Lite mil.

² post mortem Will. Montacute Comit. Sarum.

Langport, temp. Domesday, was a member of the royal manor of Somerton. At this date Robert de Auberville, or Oddburville, held a small estate at Wearne, on the north side of the parish. A Hugh de Aumbervill living soon after had a daughter married to Philip Mansel of Mansel in North Petherton (Coll., III. 72). For Heron, see 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' VI. No. 169, and the references there given. It is noticeable that the hanging chapel is spoken of as a gatehouse before the Civil War.

At this place Parrett crosseth two other of the five Rivers before spoken of vizt. Ile and Ivell; but Ile lying more west shall be for my orderly proceeding first described. It riseth not farr from St. Ranehill of which I have spoken before, and passeth amongst little villages by

DOLISH WAKE.

Soe called for that it was y^e inheritance of the auncient and noble familie of Wakes, from whom by Keynes it came hereditarily to the Speakes still owners of it, at whose mansion Whitlackington you may find mencon of theis mens' Armes. Ile passeth also by

CREKITT MALERBE.

Which addicon it gott from the auncient Lords, a family of greate eminency in Devonshire where they florished long. But this in Edward the thirds time¹ became the possession of Sir Thomas de Courtney second sonne of Hugh Earle of Devon, one of whose daughters coheires to their brother brought Crickett unto the Dynhams of whom more elsewhere.

Malherbe: Or a cheveron gules betweene 3 nettle leaves
vert, taken in imitation of the name as I thinke.

Courtney: Or 3 torteauxes a bendlet gobone or and asure.

Dinham: Gules 5 fussels in fess ermin.

Not far from theis lies

SEABORO.

Where another rill increaseth Ile. This place was anciently the seate of the Golds, one of which namely John Gold gave unto John Thredder² parson of the Church of Seuebrough a certaine parcell of ground whereon to build a new Church. This

¹ Esc. 39 E. 3.

² Inq. de quo ad damn. 3 Hen. 5.

John Gold left daughters and heires, whereof one was married unto Richard Martin descended from the ancient Martin of Dorset, and another unto [John] Bale either of which had a mansion house here owned by their posterity at this present.

Gold : Arg. on a cheveron sab. betw. 3 roses gules 3 beches of grapes or.

Martin : Arg. 2 barrs gules, a difference.

Bale : . . .

It is an error of topography to place Seaborough here, for it is situated south of Crewkerne, and should have been mentioned before Wayford. The last Gould was a John, but one hundred and fifty years later than Gerard would place him. He was murdered at the instigation of his neighbour, Mr. Weekes, for poaching on his lands, August 7, 1555. He left four daughters : Margaret, married to Richard Martin ; Katharine, to Henry Hoskyns ; Alice, to John Bale ; and Ann, to William Strechleigh ('Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' VII. No. 58).

As for that other rill wee shall meet with it coming from

WHITSTANTON.

The seate and nominall place of the family of Stantons knights ; for I have found in an old deed in Henry the third's time mention of Sir William de Stanton. Theis holding Stanton of the old Lords Awdley gave Armes in allusion to theirs, vizt. gules frett arg. taken from the Lords gules frett or. Joane the only heire of Roger Stanton, who lived in Henry the sixth time, tooke for her husband Simon Brett whose progenitors you may find at Odcombe or very neere it, and whose posterity flourish still at it in good esteeme.

Stanton : Gules fretty arg.

Brett : Arg. crusele fiche, and a Lyon rampant gules.

This village and Buckland St. Mary are in the valley of the Yarty, a tributary of the Axe, and with Otterford are on the Devonshire side of the Blackdown hills. There is a very interesting paper on the county boundaries hereabouts by Mr. G. B. Davidson in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXVIII. pt. ii. To the same volume the Rev. F. Brown contributed a paper on the family of Brett of Whitstanton, but even he failed to find the link between the families of Brett and Stanton. In 1449 John Brytte, 'dominus manerii de Whitstanton, with others, was patron of the living. It is very doubtful if Joane was the sole heir of Roger Stanton, as the Hugyn family seem to have had large rights in the manor' (*op. cit.*).

And soe passing through the dirty forrest of Rache seeth nothing save Abdiack which gives name to the Hundred wherein it stands.

BRADWEY.

Seated in the forrest, which was heretofore called Stanton Broadway for that it was the seate of a younger braunch of those Stanton's last spoken of, who counterchanged the Armes of the elder house into arg. frett gules, and whose heire generall by Organ of Silvinch was Crewkerne of Chidhey in Dorsett.

I have not been able to find 'Abdiacke' within the forest. Broadway is a large parish, and now divided among many owners. Ecclesiastically it was a chapel to Curry Rivel.

The River now increased gives name unto

ILMINSTER.

A good Markett towne on the Satturdaies. A towne that stands much upon cloathing and makeing of gloves. It anciently belonged unto the Abbotts of Muchelney, as before I have noted, and sithence the dissolucon is from the Duke of Somerset descended to the Earle of Hartford. The thing best deserving your observacon here is the Church which is faire, large and well built, noe doubt by their elder Lords the Abbotts who in most places fitted their Mannors with good churches. In the crosse Isles here you may see faire tombes of two families, vizt. the Wadhams and Walronds whose dwellings, as also Jordan and Dillington, are comprised within this parish.

As in Gerard's time, the church is the most interesting thing in the town or parish. The tombs of the Wadham family, with splendid brasses, are enclosed in the north transept. As is noted under Merifield, the tomb of the founder of the College and of his wife having decayed very rapidly, was restored at the close of the seventeenth century by Sir Edward Wyndham, Knight, and Thomas Strangways, Esq. ; and again in 1899 by the College, when at the same time the transept was rescued from its forlorn condition.

Every one of these will afford something, and I will begin with the first though farthest of, namely

MERIFIELD.

Seated on the edge of forest which shews a faire auncient house moated in, and neighboured with a parke. This for a

long time hath given habitacon to ye Wadhams; but more anciently belonged to the Lord Beauchamps¹ of Hach by purchase of the Lord John Beauchampe in Edward the firsts time. Theis Wadhams (that I may note so much) were an ancient family as takeing their names from Wadham in Devon, which the heires of that family still enjoy, and were much rayased by William de Wadham a Judge or Justice in King Edward the third's time. From him issued divers knights who florished in great esteeme much increasing their estate by the coheires of John Cheseldon, and Sir Stephen Popham of Popham in Hampshire, lineallie descended from the heires generall of Souch, St. Martin, Lortie, Walround, and Nevill, all most noble families; but Nicholas Wadham who dyed in our fathers time the sonn of John Wadham by Tregarthins coheire of Cornwall, having noe children lett his lands descend unto his sisters' children Sir John Strangways, Sir John Wyndham and the foure daughters and coheires of Nicholas Martin of Dorsetshire; but hath perpetuated his name to all ensuing ages, in being the cheife and only founder (except his wife), and endower of that goodly Colledge in Oxford from him called Wadham Colledge, by which meanes though his fair tombe in Ilminster Church should be ruined and decaied (as it begins apace already), yet his memory shall never dye as long as learning and religion remaine with us, and it shall be my wish that men of ability would by some such meanes though not in so large a measure, make their memories pretious to succeeding ages, were it but building an Almshouse for poore people as Mr. Wadham did at his gate, or otherwise.

Wadham: Gules a cheveron betw. 3 roses arg.; this impaled [with] his wives who was of the house of Petres, vizt. gules a bend or betw. 2 scollops arg., is the Armes of Wadham Colledge.

Cheseldon: Or on a cheveron gules 3 martletts arg.

Popham: Arg. on a chefe gules 2 staggs heads sab. or.

Souch: gules a cheveron arg. betweene 10 besants.

St. Martin: Sab. 6 Lyons rampant or, 3. 2. and 1.

Lorty: Asure a Lion rampant per pale or and gules.

Walround: Barry of 6 or and asure, an Eagle displaied gules.

¹ Esc. 12 E. 1.

Nevill : Arg. a chefe indented vert, a bendlett gules.

Tregarthin : Arg. a cheveron betw. three scolloppe sab.

This place is really in the parish of Ashill, though, owing to its proximity to Ilton, the almshouses built by Nicholas Wadham are devoted for the benefit of that parish. Of the house, it may be said that not one stone remains upon another. For much more relating to the family, see T. G. Jackson's 'Wadham College, 1893.' From Cheselden Pen-selwood came to Wadham, and so descended to his heirs.

SEA.

Another hamlett, is the principle seate of a younger braunche of the ancient and well respected family of Walrounds of Bradfield in Devon planted here first by the heire of John Backhampton then owner of Sea, and sithence spread into another branch as by and by you shall heare.

Walround : Arg. three bulls heads sab. hornes or, a difference.

Backhampton : . . .

For Sea, Jordan, Dillington, Whitelackington, and Atherstone, see notes in the Muchelney Chartulary, S.R.S., Vol. XIV.

JURDAN.

Deserves remembrance also, for that it gave the same name unto the ancient Lords of it, of which William de Jordan who lived in Edward the third's time left by his wife daughter and heire of John de Lourney, two daughters, y^e eldest married to . . . Muttlebury whose posterity remaine owners of and reside at this place untill this day where they have built a new house; Margaret the second daughter of William de Jourdan was married unto William Eastmond from whom divers yet remaineinge are issued.

Jordan : Asure crusele and a Lyon rampant or.

Lourney : Cheque or and asure, on a chefe asure 2 mulletts or.

Muttlebury : On a bend gules 3 round buckles arg., a border of the second.

Eastmond : Sab. a cheveron arg. betw. 3 starrs or.

Here is but one more Hamlett of any note in Ilminster, which is

DILLINGTON.

A while since the cheife seate of a younger, and also as I can find, the only branche of that noble and ancient family of Bonville heretofore of soe greate power and possession in theis partes. Theis remained here as they doe still at Clopton untill our daies, when Sir George Speake next neighbour unto it bought it, and being much taken with the pleasantnes of the place and neernes of his mansion-house, there being only his parke betweene them hath built much at it, and made a fine convenient place of it where his eldest sonne now lives.

And now having done with Ilminster and the members of it, lett us repaire to our guide the River Ile which eftsoones gives name unto

ASHILL [in MSS. 'Ashfile'].

Whose owners you shall find at Seaventon, and therefore I will forbear them. Here not farr from this a little brooke more increaseth the River which comes besides

WHITLAKINGTON.

Anciently belonging to the Montsorrells; of which Thomas de Montsorrell held it in King Johns time,¹ and another of the same name in Edward the firsts time,² whose sonne Phillip de Montsorrell and John Crispin held it in the next king's raigne.³ As for Montsorrell I have found no more of him, but John Crispin had William Crispin who by his wife Joane⁴ daughter and heire of John de Ashlond⁵ of Ashlond and Athelardeston now Atherston in this parish became possessed of theis places. Give me leave by the way in a word or two to give my opinion of Athelardeston, and I will proceed surely and without much doubt. I doe and thinke may believe that it tooke that name from Athelard a petty king in the Westsaxons time, who it seemes kept his residence at it; mencon you may find of him in King Ina his charter to the Abbey of Glaston⁶ in theis words:

Necnon hortatu Balaredi et Athelardi subregulorum meorum.
And to this Abbey also as my quoted author saies, this

¹ p.lta. 13 John.

² Esc. 12 E. 1.

³ Noia. villar. 9 E. 2.

⁴ 13 E. 2.

⁵ 6 E. 2.

⁶ Malmesbury de antiq. Glaston.

Athelard gave Poeldon being 60 hides. Lastly he succeeded the same king Ina in the westsaxon kingdome being by him appointed at his going to Rome, but by most of our writers is called Ethelard; thus much by reason of the name, and if in my conjecture I have erred I am sorry for it.

I will therefore returne to William Crispin who by the aforesaid Joane Ashlond had Jone which an Inquisition¹ taken after her mother's death calls her heire, but another² taken the next yeare after shewes she had a sonne named Roger Crispin. However the right went, sure I am the estate was possessed by the aforesaid Joane and her husband Walter de Badestone whose daughter Elizabeth brought it to her husband John Streache; whose sonne Sir John Streache much increasing his estate by Mary sole heire of John de Molton Lord of Ashhill before named and Sevenhampton, left a rich inheritance to his two daughters Cicely first wife to Sir William de Cheyney and after Thomas Bonvill, and Elizabeth who brought this Whitlackington, Atherston, Ashill &c. unto her husband Sir Thomas Beauchampe, a man of noble descent I assure you, for he was the second sonne of William Beauchampe of Lillsdon seconde sonne of William de Bellocampo Baron of Hache by Cicily de Fortibus his wife. Unto this Thomas I believe I may without prejudice to any other ascribe the building of that ancient faire house still remaineing in Whitlackington, because both in it and the adjoining church I have frequently founde his Armes differenced from both elder houses as you shall in the Conclusion see, as also the Armes of Streech, Molton and others his imediate predecessors. This Thomas soe often spoken of, had but one only daughter Alice married to John Speake a man of very ancient decent in Devonshire whose father of the same name possessed lands not farr of in right of his wife Joane daughter and heire of John Keynes, and heire generall of Thomas Wake, by which matches and also with the heire of John Wynard founder of that dainty hospitall in Exeter from him called the Winards, they have ever since florished in the primest rancke of knights, and are Lords still of, and living at Whitlakington, which for goodnes and plesant situation may justly boast.

Montsorrell: Asure a chefe or.

¹ Esc. 13 E. 2.

² Ibid. 14 E. 2.

Crispin : Gules six lozenges arg. 3. 2. and 1.

Badstone : Gules a pale of lozenges arg. ; taken from the former.

Streche : Arg. three martletts gules, a bendlett ingrailed sa. Beauchamp of Hach : Vare.

Beauchamp of Lillsdon : The same within a border gules.

Beauchamp of Whitlackington : The same, the border ingrailed.

Speake : Arg. 2 barrs asure, an eagle displayed with two heads or.

Below this but in this parish and therefore fittest here to be menconed lies

SILVAYNE.

Which gave that name unto y^e ancient owners of it ; of whom Richard Silveyne increased his estate by matching with Margaret coheire to John Merland of Orchardley in this County by whom he had one sonne Roger, and a daughter named Isabell. This Roger had one only daughter Elianora second wife of Sir Thomas Beauchampe of Whitlackington¹ whom she outlived, but dyed herselfe without childe ; whereupon Silveyne fell unto Henry Ogan in right of his wife . . . daughter and heire generall of Isabell sister of Roger Silveyne ; and the heires generalle of Ougan in our grandfathers daies parted this place betweene Sturton Larder Crewkerne &c. ; but now by purchase it belongs if not the whole, the most unto Sir George Speake of Whitlackington.

Silveyne :

Ogan : Or on a chefe sa. three martletts or.

Having thus gone through the parish of Whitlackington lett us againe repaire to our guide the brooke, which will soone bring us to

STOCKLINCH.

OTTERSE

The name of which shewes y^e scituacō of it. Stocke with the Saxons beinge equivalent with Stowe which signifies a place ; and linche the side or declining of a hill. This place as almost

¹ 36 H. 6.

X OSTRUM ~ EASTERN?
OSTRICER ~? OSTRICIUM
SOADWART

R.M.L.W.

County of Somerset.

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all others heretofore gave the surname to the then owners of it, one of which namely Rafe de Stocklinche founded a Chantry¹ in y^e Parish Church here and left a female heiress married unto his neighbour William Denbaud of Henton.

The tenure of this place for the strangeness of it take if you please out of the Inquisition taken after the death of John Denbaud² grandchild of the aforesaid William.

Johannes Denbaud ten't &c., manerium de Stocklinch Ostricer cum advocacōe Ecclesie de Comitatu Huntingdon ut de manerio suo de Haselbeare per servitium custodiendi unū Ostrum quolibet anno quousque plene firmeter per rationabile tempus pro omnibus servitiis et quando ostrum plene firmatur, portabit ostrum predictum ad Curia' domini sui et ipse et uxor ejus cū tribus garcionibus tribus equis et tribus leporariis, et ibidem morabant per quadraginta dies ad sumpt' domini sui, et habebit pro labore suo secundam meliorem robam domini; et secundam meliorem robam domine ad opus uxoris sue.

From Denbaud it fell in marriage right unto the Pawletts of Henton, and from this tenure gott the nickname of Stocklinch Ostricer to difference it from Stocklinch Magdalen an adjoining parish which . . . Veale in Henry the sixth time gave unto an Almeshouse that he built at Ilchester. If I had not already spoken of Dillington I might well doe it next because the brooke brings me to it, and to the river Ile againe which certainly gave name to the last-named place, for de-Ile-ing-ton from the Saxon I should translate A towne seated on the meadowe by the River Ile, all which it corresponds unto.

Stocklinch Ottersey is the upper portion of the village, which, though still possessing two churches, has been amalgamated for all ecclesiastical and civil affairs. The upper church is an interesting little building. The south transept, separated from the nave by an arcade of two arches, was evidently built for the chantry in 1330. The tracery of the south window is of a very unusual pattern, being a variation of a rose design. The inner arch is foliated. On the sill of this window rests a female effigy, possibly the wife of Ralph de Stocklinch. In the outer face of the east wall of the transept is the head of a very beautiful cross, evidently a monumental slab.

For notes on this tenure, see 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' V. 31.

But leaving this the River hence passeth by

¹ Inq. de quo ad damn. 4 E. 3.

² Esc. 14 R. 2.

POKINGTON [PUCKINGTON].

The inheritance of the ancient family of Knoville, and it seems their dwelling ; because an inquisicōn tells me that Gilbert de Knovill in Edward the first his time¹ founded and endowed a Chauntry in the Church of Pockington, consisting of two Priests, and left to succed him his sonne John that not long survived him and at his death left three daughters very young that injoyed his inheritance, part of which in processe of time by y^e second daughter Elianor came in marriage right into Nicholas Cheyny of whom I shall have occasion to speake elsewhere, and therefore will forbear here.

Knovill : Arg. 3 mulletts gules.

Cheyney : Gules 5 fussels in fess arg. on each a scolopp sab.

Before the Conquest this place belonged to the church of St. Peter (further details not given), but was then appropriated by Roger de Corcelle. It was afterwards held of the Mallet family by Avenel, and so descended to the Knovills. The south transept was built for the chantry, which the founder seems to have intended to develop into a small college, as one of the two priests was designated 'archpresbyter,' and as late as 1362, on a vacancy, a priest was presented eo-nomine. Like so many of these foundations, it died of inanition ere the close of the fourteenth century, and in 1426 the benefice had reverted to the position of a parochial church. For Cheyney, see Poyntington *post*.

Then cometh the river and giveth name to

ILTON AND ILFORD.

The first was a Mannor of the Abbotts of Athelney, and after the dissoluōn became by purchase the Inheritance of the Wadhams who inclosed a part of it within their parke of Merifield. The other is notable only for a new Almshouse built here by the Executors of an old userer named. . . . But if it [be] true which the Paptists affirme, that they which give towards good workes in their life time, it shall be as a light or candle carried before them ; and they that deferr it untill their death it shall be as a light followinge them, nevertheles yields some light. This man's executors protracted the performeing of this only good

¹ Inq. de quo ad damn. 29 E. 1.

worke soe long, that I feare [if] he had no other light it was a difficult matter for him to find the way to Heaven. But I will leave him in his grave, and his Almshouses for his tombe; and wish all his profession would provide themselves such tombes.

Ilford is a small hamlet within the parish. It gives name to Ilford Bridges—a series of which carry the Langport road over the Ile and several catch-drains, and to a picturesque old farmhouse, where the Courts for the Hundred of Abdick and Bulstone used to be held. On the headstone of the arch at the entrance to the almshouses is an inscription: 'This . Hovse . was . Fovnded . By . John . Whetstone . Gentelman . For . the . Reliefe . of . the . Pore . of . Ilton . Año . Dñi . 1634.' So it must have been barely finished before Gerard's death.

From Ilford wee come unto Abbotts Ile.

ABBOTTS ILE.

Which name it tooke as belonging to the Abbotts of Athelney; and

ILE BREWERS.

Both named from the River. This was a part of the Barony of Odcombe owned by the greate Henry de la Brewer, whose grandchildren and heires devided his estate betweene y^e families of Mohun, Percy, Bruse, Wake and Lafert. The first of which enjoyed Ile Brewer after the expiracon of a graunt made unto Walter le Brett, but in Edward the seconds time,¹ it came by purchase unto William de Marleberghe, a monied man it seemes in those times, for he bought much land but left noe child to enjoy it, yet for a memoriall founded and endowed a Chauntry in the Church of All Saints in this place for one priest which was after increased by his kinsman and heire. Soone after this [it] fell (but how I know not) to Sir Henry Haddon, and from his heires generall to y^e Chideokes of Chideoke in Dorsett, but I shall not need to particularise the particular changes for it will but weary you and me. Its now the seate of Mr. Walround a gentleman of ancient descent as but now almost you have heard, and at this present Sheriffe of y^e Countie; whose mansion house seated in the parke and invironed with trees yealds a good prospect to passengers. The improprie parsonage of this place and other lands belonging to it were for some descents the

¹ 8 E. 2.

inheritance and dwelling of the Bourmans originally of Devonshire, whereas also in the Ile of Wight they still florish.

Waldround : Arg. 3 bull's heads sab. hornes or, a difference.

Bourman : Ermin on a bend cotised sab [three ¹] bore heads or.

The old church, being too near the river, has been pulled down, and rebuilt on a drier site.

Walrond's Park is on the east side of the parish, facing the main road from Langport to Ilminster. As William Walrond was sheriff 1632-33, this statement gives the exact date of the completion of the Survey. He lived until the Restoration, and dying August 24, 1662, was buried in the Retro-choir of Wells Cathedral.

At this very place another rill falls into Ile ; whose head is neere an auncient fort or Castle, as they were then tearmed, in Roche forest, but of whose raiseing it was I cannot shew you, nor the reason of the name of the forest which was first called Nerechich, as an Inquisition taken the two and twentieth of Edward the first shewes, who gave leave to Henry de Urtiaco to assert certayne Coppices, the forest left open then consisting of about 2000 acres ; the one of Edward the second upon the death of Peche forester of it as of all the kings forests in Somerset which then as the Inquisitions sayes were Northpetherton, Mendip, Selwood, Neerchist, Exmore and the warren of Somerton, it is as you read called Neerechist ; afterwards vizt. the fifteenth of Edward the third Neerhich ; and sithence by corruption Neroch and now Roche, a dirty soile enough it is, and something too good for deere which is the cause that very latlie it is disafforested. This brooke comes first to

STAPLE

FITZPATRICK

The possession long since of Robert de Bruse whose sonn John de Bruse was possessed of it as followeth :

Juratores dicunt super sacramentum suum quod Johannes de Brewis concessit Roberto de Burnell Wellen. et Bathon. Episcopo maritagium Beatricis filie sue, et dicunt quod per licentiam domini Regis dictus Johannes Brewis feofavit Tho. de Bitton tunc Archidiacon. Wellen. de manerio de Staple etc., postea idem Thomas feofavit Johannem de Brewis et Beatricem filiam ejusdem Johannis de predictis maneriis habend. dicto

¹ MSS., 'the.'

Johanni et Beatrici filiæ suæ et heredibus dictæ Beatricis, et postea venit Robertus Burnell tunc Episcopus et maritavit Robertum Burnell nepotem suum dictæ Beatrici per assensum dicti Johannis (mortuo dicto Johanne). Idem Robertus nepos dicti Episcopi etat. 21 annorum et Beatrix uxor ejus etat. 17 annorum intraverunt et habent quendam filiam.

Not long after by what arrangement I know not Staple came to the Lords Fitzpayne, and from them by Poynings hereditarily to the Earles of Northumberland, not long sithence owners of it.

Bruse : Crusele and a lyon ramp. ex sigillo.

Burnell : Arg. a lyon ramp. sab. crowned or, a bordure asure.

Fitzpaine : Gules three lyons passant arg. a bendlet asure.

Poynings : Barry of six or and vert, a bendlet gules.

Northumberland : Or a Lyon rampant asure.

The little stream is now anonymous, but is apparently the Earn of several Anglo-Saxon charters in the Muchelney chartulary. The name seems conserved in Earnshill and (in a modern form) Aronsmill, higher up its course.

Staple had passed out of the possession of the Earl of Northumberland early in the sixteenth century, as in 1529 and 1560 Warre and Clifton respectively were patrons. In 1605 it belonged to Sir Hugh Portman, in which family it has since continued.

Of this parish is Lilsdon.

LILSDON.

Erstwhile the cheife house of the Bullers of good note and respect, which they increased by joyninge in marriage with the heire generall of Nicholas Chedington in Dorsett, and John Beauchamp owner of this Lilsdon, who truly deduced his descent from William the second sonne of John de Bello Campo Baron of Hache and Cicely de Fortibus his wife ; theis Bullers in our fathers daies were all on a suddaine eclipsed nay quite lost in theis partes, but a braunch of them being transported into Cornwall flourish there in knights degree. [This place has always been in the parish of North Curry.]

Beauchamp : Vare, a border gules for a difference.

Chedington : Asure on a cheveron betweene three cross crosletts arg. 3 ogresses.

Buller : Sab. on a cross quarter perced arg. foure eglets sa.

BIKENHULL.

Which if wee mix British and Saxon together (as well wee may in the Etimologie of places' names) signifies the little hill, next presents itselfe unto our view ; which for some generacōns belonged to the noble family of the Pavelies Lords also of Brooke and Westbury in Wiltshire, one of which namely Sir Walter de Paveley was admitted by King Edward the third as not only a companion but a founder of the noble order of the garter, but this by the way for its hardly pertinent to this place, seeing his father Robert nineteene years before vizt. the fifth of Edw. the third passed this place unto John sonne of William de Stapleton,¹ and father of Robert that dyed without issue, whereupon the lands came to his sister Cicely² unto her husband Stephen de Laundey, and by their three daughters and heires unto Thomas de Doddington Thomas de Orchard and Richard de Chidhey, the descendants of whom, if not still, untill of late time injoyed it. That this place gave sirname unto the Bickonills sometimes of knights degree I dare not absolutely affirme, and yet it seemes probable enough, seeing many families of good note tooke names from places they were not owners of, and in the Northe were comonly distinguished by 'at' and 'of;' for John at Bickenhull intimated as much as borne there, and John of Bickonell or as in old records de Biconhull the Lord or owner of it.

Paveley: Asure a crosse flore or.

Stapleton: Arg. 2 bends wavy sab.

Laundey: Barry of six asure and or ; in chese 3 bezants.

Childhey: . . .

Doddington: Sab. three hunting horns with lines arg.

Orchard: Asure a cheveron arg. betweene 3 peares or.

Biconell: . . .

See an article by Mr. A. S. Bicknell in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XL. ii. 179. From Thomas de Orchard the manor descended to William de Orchard, whose heiress, Christina, married Walter Portman, d. 1474. This family now possesses the whole manor.

And now are wee come to

¹ 16 E. 3.

² 36 E. 3.

HACH.

A place of as great note heretofore as any hereabouts, it being Caput Baronie, as our Lawyers terme it, of the most ancient and noble family of Beauchamp or de Bello Campo written ever 'de Somerset,' to difference them from those Earles of Warwick of the same name and their numerous progenie, noe waies allyed to them.

The name of this place hath cost me some paines but I thinke to little; and first I thought the forest to have [been] called Nereach quasi Neer hach, but my former alledged names of Neerchist and Neerchich made me leave that as vaine, neither would the Brittish or Saxoni Language afford me any help, then fell I upon an observacon from the Country speech, who in theis parts call a halfe dore as you enter their houses, an hache which commonly is kept shutt when the other stands open, as a barr to keep any from entering without their knowledge. An hach also shall you find in the better sort of houses before the buttery dore; London houses are full of them as stopps, and they are very usefull, but of all this I can gather but halfe. Moreover I remember to have scene in bookes of Armes the Coate of one Hach of Devonshire of eminent gentry to be blasoned gules two Lyons hachy or, when indeed they were halfe or demy Lyons; what to do with halfe, if Hache should soc signifie, I know not, and to say it intimates a barr or stopp I cannot. I will therefore leave it to those who better know the meaneing of it then myselfe; and returne to the owners who florished here in degree of Barons and in a highe esteeme from before the date of any deeds untill Edward the thirds time.¹ Of theis John de Bellocampo much advanced himselfe by his wife Cicely de Fortibus² of noble blood for her [grand] father Hugh de Vivonia seneschall of Poicters and Aquitaine under Henry the third married Mabell daughter to the Lord William, and sister and coheire to the Lord William Mallett Baron of Curry Mallett, and her father William de Fortibus joyned in marriage with Maude daughter of William Earle Ferrers but coheire to her mother Sibell one of the heires of the great William Earle of Penbrooke and Earle Marshall of England; but his greatgrandchild John dyed issulesse though

¹ Esc. 11 E. 3.² 1 E. 3.

not unmarried for he tooke to wife Alice¹ daughter of Thomas Bewchamp Earle of Warwicke remarried to Sir Mathew de Gourney as elsewhere I have shewed. After his death his two sisters entered his estate, Cicely first married to Sir Roger St. Maure and after to Sir Richard Turberville, and Elinor to Sir John Merriett; but their issue in a few descents failing, the whole estate of the Lord Beauchampe came unto the Seymers a very auncient family of knights who having increased their livelyhood besides this, with the heires of Estherney, Mack-Williams and Coker, were honoured by King Henry the eight (who had taken to wife Jane daughter of Sir John Seymer) first with the title of Viscount Beauchamp after Earle of Hartford, to which King Edward the sixt after added Baron Seymer because his mother's name should not be forgotten, and lastly made him Duke of Somersett, all which (the last only lost) remaine still in William now Earle of Hartford a right nobleman and still owner of this place.

The heires generall have taken me up soe long that I had almost forgotten to tell you that divers branches came from this noble stocke, whereof one remaines untill this day; the first was Beauchamp of Rime, the second of Lillsdon, the third of White-lakeington, the fourth of Cornwall where one remaines untill this present, and the heire generall of the other was married to the Lord Montjoye; but of most of theis I have spoken in their severall places, and therefore will say noe more here.

The mansion house in which theis noblemen lived which I went to see is soe ruined that were it not called Hach Court you would not believe y^t it were any of the remaynes of a Barons house, yet I sawe in the Hall Beauchampes Armes and in a little Chappell on the top of the house Seymer's, winges *or* in a red sheild, and going a little farther to the Church to see some monuments I find not one, the Church having bin new built long since the Beauchamps time; only in a large North Ile I saw the Armes of Seymour Beauchampe Stermy and Coker quartered, which shewes that it must be noe older then Henry the seaventh his time, when peace upon the union of the houses of Lancaster and Yorke produced plentie, and that pious workes, for that Sir John Seymer which married Coker's heire did die the nineteenth of Edward the fourth² and his wife seaven yeares³ before him wherefore it must be his sonne that built it, otherwise he could

¹ 7 R. 2.² 19 E. 4.³ 12 E. 4.

not have quartered Coker's Armes which with the rest you may find here following.

Beauchamp of Hach : Vare.

Beauchamp of Rime : Vare, a labell or.

Beauchamp of Lilsdon : Vare, a labell gules.

Beauchamp of Whitlakington : Vare, a border ingrailed gules.

Beauchamp of Cornwall : as Lillesdon, besanted on the border.

de Fortibus or Vivonia : Arg. a chefe gules.

Mallett : Asure 3 scolloppe or.

Ferrers : Vare or and gules.

Marshall : Per pale gules and vert a lion rampant or.

Seymer : Gules two wings enjoyned or.

Turberville : Chequee or and gules, a fesse ermine.

Merriett : Barry of six or and sab.

Sturmey : Arg. 3 demilions rampant gules.

Coker : Arg. on a bend gules 3 leopards heads or.

Our author's researches into the meaning of Hach are something like those after the philosopher's stone, which, while they failed of their main object, yet found much of interest on the way. Beauchamp has been treated of under Shepton Beauchamp, and notes there. It descended from Seymour to Bruce, Lord Ailesbury, and was sold between 1715 and 1725. The present house at Hatch Court is a modern building ; and the armorial glass in the church is not now visible.

It will now be our happinesse to travaile from one good house to another, for having left Hach the water presently brings us to

CORY MALLET.

As the former, a Barony, which belonged to the Malletts of a Norman race ; of which William Mallett was by King Henry the first banished, nevertheles his grandchild Gilbert by his sonne William returned, and was by Henry the second receaved into favour who made him one of his Sewers and restored to him this Curry Mallett Shepton Mallett and his other possessions. This Gilbert had William Baron of Curry Mallett of whom take if you please this record ensuing to show you his Condiçons.

Rogerus de Ravis appellat Willm Mallett quod cum per preceptum domini G. filii Petri esset in servitio domini Regis

tempore quo dux fuit apud Dunstore pro pace domini Regis servandi, ipse Willielmus cum hominibus suis sepes suas prostravit apud Ladesland, et cogos inde fecit, et blados suos combussit &c.¹

This was that Geoffrey Fitzpeter of especiall trust and Councell with King John who sent him thither, it seemes to pacifie some uprores at his first comeing to the Crowne, manie thinking Arthur Duke of Brittain his nephew had more right to it then himselfe. But wee will returne to our lusty William Mallett; he was father of another William Mallett and he of a third that dyed issulesse and two daughters Mabell married to Hugh de Vivonia and Helvesia to Nicholas Pointz. I may not overpasse that from an uncle of the first Gilbert those Malletts still remaineing in theis parts are lineally descended, but as for Curry this inquisition following will exactlie show you the Lords of it.²

Juratores dicunt super sacramentum suum quod Johannes Tiptoft miles dominus Tiptoft habuit ex dono Regis Henrici quatuor³ maneria de Stoke under Hamden, Milton Fauconbridge, Midsomer Norton, Stratton, Farrington Gourney, Welton, Ingelescombe, Widcombe, Laverton, et medietatem manerii de Shepton Mallett &c., et dicunt quod quidam Willielmus Mallett miles, filius Gilberti Mallett fuit seisatus de Maner. de Cory Mallett cum advocone &c. et habuit exitum Willm Mallett filium suum, patrem Willielmi Mallett et duarum filiarum vizt. Mabillic et Helewisie; qui Willielmus Mallett dedit manerium de Cory Mallett Nicholao Pointz filio Nicholai Pointz cum filia sua Helewisia in maritagium et heredibus corporis Helewisie et per eam habuit exitum Nicholaum, sed pater supervixit Helewisiam, et Nicholaus⁴ filius ejus cepit in uxorem Elizabetham filiam domini Willielmi la Souch et Millicente de Montealto uxoris ejus et habuerunt exitum Hugonem Pointz militem, qui cepit in uxorem Margaretam filiam domini Willmi Paveley militis domini de Brooke in Wilts, et habuerunt exitum Nicholaum Pointz militem, qui duxit Elianoram filiam domini Johannis Erleighe militis, et Avicia nupta Johanni Barry de Comitatu Somerset et habuerunt exitum Willielmum Barry qui obiit sine prole, idem Johannes Newberghe habuit exitum Johannem Newberghe jam superstitem. Predictus Nicholaus Pointz miles

¹ Plita'. 1 Johis.

² An evident error for 'quarti.'

³ Inq. capta 21 H. 6.

⁴ Esc. 1 E. 1.

pater predictæ Margarete et Avicie, pro 1^o alienavit Manerium predictum Matheo Gourney militi et ex eo devenit predicto Johanni Tiptoft et predictus Johannes Tiptoft obiit penultimo dei Februarii et Johannes est ejus filius et heres etat. 18 annorum.

Those lands mentioned in the front of this Inquisition were all Mathewe Gourney's who dying without issue, they fell to the Crowne and were by King Henry the fourth conferred on John Lord Tiptoft, whose sonne of the same name King Henry the sixth created Earle of Worcester, and Edw. the fourth cutt him shorter by the head. Nevertheles he restored John his sonne to his father's honours who dyed issulesse, whereupon theis lands once more reverted to the Crowne, and since hath had divers owners, and first the Duke of Warwicke, after the Earle of Somersett &c., and now the Lord Pawlett, but a mansion house &c. belongs to Mr. Pine.

Those Poyntz before spoken of were a right noble family, and of them some were summoned as Barons to the Parliament, and their issue male flourish at Acton in Gloucestershire in greate esteeme unto this day, where a younger branche of theis Barons planted himselfe by the heire of Sir Richard de Acton.

The descent of this and the other manors in the county which now belong to the Duchy of Cornwall has been traced by Mr. J. Batten in 'Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.,' XL. ii., 'Stoke under Hamden.'

In the Inquisition there is evidently an hiatus in the middle, as 'idem Johannes Newburgh' has not previously been mentioned.

I will not overpasse in this parish

BRADON.

Or South Bradon, which was the dwelling of Nicholas Read in Richard the second's time, whose only daughter and heire Margaret brought it to her husband Sir Stephen Popham of Popham, and his coheire Elizabeth unto John Wadham of Mcrefeild of whom I have spoken before; and will for a conclusion of Curry Mallett give you the Armes according to my use.

Mallett: Asure 3 escollopps or.

Vivon: Arg. a chief gules.

Pointz: Barry or and gules.

Souch: Gules 10 besants 4, 3, 2, 1.

Montealty : Asure a Lyon ramp. arg.
 Paveley : Asure a crosse pate flore or.
 Erleighe : Gules three escolloppes within a border ingrailed arg.
 Newberghe : Bendy of six or and asure a border ingrailed gules.
 Barry : Barule arg. and gules.
 Gourney : Pale of 6 or and asure, on a bend gules 3 mulletts arg.
 Tiptoft : Arg. a saltier ingrailed gules.
 Pawlett : Sab. 3 swords in pile arg. hilts or.
 Pine : Asure a fess betweene 3 escollopps or.
 Acton : Quarterly, the fesse indented, arg. and asure.
 Read : Gules five fussels in bend ermin, a border asure.
 Popham, Wadham, As before.

These are two distinct parishes : Goose Bradon, which is now part of Hambridge ; but it actually had a separate entity down to our own day, though even in Collinson's account it is described as having 'neither church, house, nor inhabitant.' The additional name is a reminder of its former owners, the knightly family of De Gouiz, for whom see Kingsdon (*post*).

The other Bradon is dimidiated into North and South, the former part having been taken into Isle Brewers, and the latter into Puckington. Ecclesiastically it is a sinecure rectory.

This brooke at Ile Brewers as already I have observed joyneth to Ile, which hence holdeth on its course throughe the low and flatt Countrie that wee call Moores unto Langport, and there joyneth with Parrett my old guide, which I have a greate while forsaken and can but now see it before I am called away by the river Ivell which here also joynes unto it. This being the largest of the whole Countie will draw me something farr off to the Southeast of this shire to seeke the head or spring of it, which first appears not farr from a place where tradicon tells us the West Saxon Kings had a house, in memory whereof wee call it to this day

KINGSBURY.

There you shall see a large fortified place on which it is most probable y^e Castle or house stood, having on the one side Weeke, soe called as being a Street for Weeke signifies as well as the curving of the Sea or a River, unto the Pallace, and on the other Milborne Port, which parish compriseth both the

other. Theis two, I meane Kingsbury and Weeke were at the Conquest¹ and sithence part of the ancient demeanes of the Crowne which makes nothing against my former opinion.

The fortification still exists, being quite visible from the railway on the north side of Milborne Port station. It is not in Kingsbury at all, and is most probably a relic of the Danes, though if the late Mr. Kerslake's opinion be allowed, that the site of Kenwalch's victory over the Britons in 658 is not Pen-Selwood but Poyntington, its origin may be even earlier. The fortification consists of a high mound with a ditch in front, raised across the neck of a piece of land round which the river Yeo runs. In the valley is Wyke or Milborne Wick. In such cases Wick means an outlying farm of a large village or town, and may be considered evidence of Anglo-Saxon occupation. The name sometimes appears as Barwick or Berwick, e.g. Yeovil has Barwick; Sherborne, Bruton, Wells, Bath, Congresbury, Gillingham have Wicks within the ancient parish.

But as for

MILBORNE PORT.

I protest I knowe not whence to draw a reason for the addition to it seeing I am sure it stands on none of y^e Roman Consular wayes, which were after by y^e Saxons sometimes called Portwayes, neither on any of the Saxon highwayes that I know, but I will leave this for others to search, for I have looked long enough in vaine after it; and returne to the place which seemes by the Carkasse to have bin a pritty towne, a Borowe it was anciently and soe continued untill Edward the second's time, neither were they destitute of a good Markett which their neighbour *Scarborough*² hath gotten from them. All theis things being lost there remains nothing but a stragling towne, a large old Church, and something on the east of that a house where a branche of the noble family of Cliffords have for some ages inhabited. But I must not over-passe that they have againe procured the revocacon of their Patten for sending Burgesses unto the highe Courte of Parliament which priviledge they long enjoyed and as long lost.

Sure I am that this place gave the sirname of Milbourne unto an ancient family which heretofore and yet enjoy landes here whose ancestors were knights in Henry the thirds time, and now flourish in Gloucestershire.

¹ Lib. Domesday.

² Scarbourn, i.e. Sherborne.

Milbourne : Arg. a cross molin pierced sab.

Clifford : Cheque or and asure a fesse within a border gules,
a difference.

This place shares with Dudley in Worcestershire the addition of the Anglo-Saxon Port or Town. The church is cruciform, and is perhaps the only building in the county which shows work of possibly pre-Norman date. The existing remains consist of some arcading on the exterior of the south wall of the chancel. Other evidence at the west end of the church was destroyed when the nave was lengthened. The Cliffords, who were owners of Venn, came from Borescomb or Boscomb in Wilts ('Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' II. 148).

Lett me intreate your company back againe to Kingsbury Hill to take a view of some places by the waye of digression for thoughte they be watered yet their streames fall immediatelie into Dorsetshire which hath caused me to seeke out this way to come at them. Theis are Charlton, Horsington, Stowell, Templecombe, Hengstridge, Endestone and Tomer, of each of theis I will give you something I hope worth observation.

Gerard's topography is a little out here, as Charlton Horethorne contains the source of the Yeo, and should have come before Kingsbury. The other villages are in the valley of the Cale, and should have included Cheriton, Holton, Wincanton, Charlton Musgrove, Stoke Trister, and Cucklington, as well as Bratton St. Maur, which is placed in the valley of the Camel (*past*). The other villages having been placed elsewhere, are described in a volume which has not appeared.

CHARLTON HORETHORNE.

Called Charlton Horthorne from a Thorne standing on a plaine downe something from the Towne where the Hundred Courts for Charlton Horthorne are sometimes kept, was more anciently called Charlton Camvile for it was part of the possessions of Gerard de Camvill who came into England with William the Conqueror, and had two sonnes, Richard, and Gerard, who injoyed a Baronie in Northamptonshire called Creke from whose heires generall Catesby Astley and others deduce their descent. Richard the elder sonne by his deed without date in my custodie in theis words following transcribed out of the originall, granted certain lands here unto Robert the sonne of Michael and his heires.

'Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Richardus de Camvile assensu et consensu et voluntate et consilio Gerardi patris

mei de Camvile dedi et concessi, et hec presenti Carta mea confirmavi Roberto filio Michaeli et heredibus suis duas virgatas terre et dimidium in villa de Charlton cum omnibus pertinentiis suis scilicet &c.'

Then after the bounding and some other circumstances which I willingly omitt follows the Conclusion :

'Hiis testibus Willielmo le Denais, Jacobo de Novo mercato, Johanne Daniell, Richard de Sigwell, Roger de Netherwotton, Rado' de Merkley, Petro de Pinginton, Thomas Corbeht, Rado' Hosato, Willielmo de Bosco et multis aliis.'

This Richard was father of a second Richard de Camvile who as my author Hourden tells me went with King Richard the first into Palestine, and was so esteemed of him as he ordained him one of the Justices or Governors of the Isle of Cipresse lately won, where, wanting his health, without the kings licence he followed him unto the siege of Acon and there dyed ; thus farr my author.

Ida¹ the only heire of this man was with a goodly heritage married unto William de Longspeare eldest sonne of William Earle of Salisbury against whom Henry the third tooke such distaste for going to the holy warrs without his licence that he not only deprived him of the title of Earle, but tooke from him the Castle of Salisbury and his other lands. Neverthelesse Margarette onlie daughter of his sonne William commonly called Countesse of Salisbury brought a goodly heritage and amongst that this Charlton unto her husband Henry Lacy Earle of Lincolne which after by the attainder of Thomas Earle of Lancaster came to the Crowne whence not many ages sithence it was graunted to the Gilberts and by them sold to Mr. Turner of London who allured by the pleasantness of the place, and abundance of freestone which here ariseth even out of his cellars, hath lately built on it an handsome pile for his residence.

As for those other lands which as but even nowe you heard were granted to Robert the sonne of Michaeli, his posterity injoyed it untill by an heire generall it fell unto William Edmund ; whose grandchild Nicholas dying issuesse, alienated it unto John Storke from whom by Larder it descended hereditarily to the auncient family of Husseys, and is now owned by a second braunch of the same.

¹ Claus. 17 John.

Camvile : Asure 3 Lyons passant in pale arg.
 Camvile : Asure 2 Lions passant in pale arg.
 Longspeare : Asure six lions ramp. or, 3, 2, 1.
 Lacy : Or a lion ramp. purple.
 The Earle of Lancaster : England, a labell of France.
 Gilbert ; first : Arg. on a fesse betw. 3 annuletts gules 5
 ermine arg. ; second : Arg. a cheveron erm. betw. 3
 blackmore heads coped sable.
 Turner : . . .
 Michell : . . .
 Edmunds : On a chefe 3 rundles, ex sigillo.
 Storke : Asure a storke propper a border ermine.
 Larder : Ermin 3 piles sab., on each three besants.
 Hussy : Barry of six ermin and gules, a cressant.

Gerard de Camvill does not appear in the Somerset Domesday. Robert Fitzgerold held at that date Charlton Musgrove, and another manor of ten hides ; the name is not entered, but Eyton has shown it to be part of Charlton Horethorne. The Earl of Moretain held another manor of five hides here whose under-tenant was Valletort. Richard, the grantor of the deed quoted, could hardly have been a son of Gerard, temp. Domesday, as one of the witnesses, James de Novo-mercato, did not die until 1216. Our author seems to have duplicated the last Richard de Camville ; it was probably his grandfather who died at the siege of Acre.

Of the later owners, one may notice that the last Gilbert was Edward, who is described in the Visitation of 1623 as 'nuper de Charlton, modo in Hibernia.' Mr. Turner's house, standing upon the principal manor, is no doubt the plain building on the north side of the churchyard. Over the porch is a shield, unfortunately blank. At the east end of the house is a curious circular stair turret.

To follow my former Catalogue the next is

HORSINGTON.

Whose name¹ fetcht from Horsa the Saxon, who together with his brother Hengist in the yeare of our Salvation 450, came hither to assist the Brittish king Vortigern² because as farr as I have found he pierced not the kingdome soe farr for he was slaine in a single combat by Caligorne sonne of Vortigern in Kent at a place from him now called Horsted, yet his brother Hengist who after ruled in Brittain came as farr as Salisbury plaines if his history speake truthe, and why not further seeing his treasonable plott here tooke effect ; and Hengstridge a little

¹ After this word must be read 'cannot be.'

² Bede hist. Angl., cap. 15.

parish scarce three miles off seems to have taken that name from him ; but it skills not much whether it tooke name from Horsa or Horses for so both those names in their owne Language¹ signified, which was the cause they and their successors used for their Armes a horse, but thus much by the way the name hath drawne from me. The place soon after the first entrance of the Normans was possessed by William Newmarch or De novo mercato, a Deed of whose I have found amongst the evidences belonging to the noble Sir Charles Berkley of Bruton ; and have taken the paines to transcribe it, I meane as much as is fitt to be divulged, which follows in these words :

'Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Willielmus Newmarch dñs de Horsington et Cheriton dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Rogero Huscarle ad supplitationem Dñi Gulielmi Conquestoris nuper Regis Anglie pro suo bono servitio dicto domino Regi totum manerium meum de Esthrop cum quinque hidas [*sic*] terre prati bosci pasture et aliis pertinentiis suis jacent' &c.'

I forbear at all to specify the bounds as an unfitt thing and nothing appertaining to what I ayme at, but after that follows the tenure which for the strangnes I have sett downe though a thing unusuall with me. The words are these :

'Et omnia ista tenementa de Manerio de Horsington et Cheriton per sūta Curie ibidem bis per annum per raconalem sominat' et hoc quinque dies ante diem, et sominat' veniet equitando cum botis et calcaribus cum gladio et scuto, et torum circa Collum et pendente cum cane suo in leima ducenti cum caroteris albis in manibus et cum virga cordulata vocata whippe et si defecerit aliquid istorum non recipiet sum' et si sum' invenerit aliquem infra Manerium de Esthrope extunc percutiet bis cum gladio super exteriorem postum Janue dñi manerii in S'um' predict'.'

This much of the service or tenure : take if you please for a conclusion the intaile because I have seldome found one of that age soe exact with soe large a warranty.

'Habend' et tenend' dictum manerium de Esthorpe &c. predicto Rogero Huscarle et heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis reddendo inde annuatim capitalibus dominis feodorum illorum omnia reddit' et servitia predicta et si contingat quod predictus Rogerus Huscarle obierit sine herede de corpore suo

¹ Horsa and Hengist.

legitime procreato extunc volo quod predictum Manerium de Esthorp &c. remaneat mihi prefato Willielmo Newmarche et dominis de Horsington et Cheriton et heredibus nostris imperpetuum. Et Eg predictus Willielmus Newmarch predictum manerium de Esthorpe prefato Rogero Huscarle et heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis, ac dominus de Horsington et Cheriton et heredibus suis contra omnes gentes warrantizabimus et acquietabimus et defendimus imperpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti Carte suee Sigillum meum apposui Teste me ipso Willielmo Conquestore.'

Soe the very deed which certainly carries a shew of much antiquitie and therefore I desire not to impeache, only will if I can to help the Monk who in transcribing it (for the very originall I believe it is not) to shew his learned ignorance must needs add unto the nobleman's 'Teste me ipso' (vizt. de Novomercato) 'Willielmo Conquestore,' a title all know William the first used not, and was very simply by the Monk used here if he had understood or remembered a passage neere the beginning of the deed the words were theis :

'Ad supplitaconem domini Willmi Conquestoris nuper Regis Anglie.'

By which it seems it was after the Conqueror's death and therefore he noe fitt witnesse ; but I will passe over this and also his omitting of 'de' before the name when as Hourn den a good historian tells us that theis noble Normans tooke name of a Castle called de Novo mercato in Normandie ; neither will I reflect upon the warrantie or intaile though both of them very rare if used at all in those days ; but returne to this William de Novomercato whose posteritie flourished in the degree of Barons not only in this County but also in the severall counties of Hereford and Northampton ; the cause they soe often varied their Armes as ere long you shall see ; but I will leave theis a while and speake a word or two of Roger Huscarle, unto whom this graunt was made.

This name shows his office, for Huscarle with the Saxons was as much as a household servant ; hence it is that we find soe often 'Huscarlis Regis' in Doomsday Book, when the King compounding with a Citty or towne reserved a stipend out of it for his household servants ; hence also that word of ignominy as it is now taken hath its originall vizt. Charle, for there is noe difference between Carle and Charle, if you please

to remember that the letter k was then soe much unknowne that they writt King Chinge, and Kinsburie and Kingston Chingsbury and Chingston as the forealleaged book¹ frequently showes; and from this name Carle soe many townes and parishes in this Kingdome take the name of Carlton and Charlton which are equivalent for that the inhabitants of them were Carles or servants unto their Lords, tyed by some particular bond, as either ploughing the Lord's demesnes, soweing cutting and bringing it home, or cutting makeing and carrying his hey, for in those times Lords had their services done by their tenants, and the same services are in use here and there untill this day, though knowne by the name of Customs which the long Continuance of them hath gotten, but of the name enough. I will only note seeing in the due place I have omitted it, that the posterity of this Roger Huscarle by the same name flourished long at Esthrope, and were benefactors to the Priory of Bruton, as diverse their deeds which I have seene affirme sealed with a seale of Armes vizt. a Bend cotised between sixe acrones.

Leave wee this now and look back upon the owners of Horsington descended from the aforesaid William de Novomercato, and ending in the Lord James de Novomercato or Newmarch, whose three daughters brought a faire estate unto their husbands: James de Moeles² that in his wife's right had Cadbury as you may see elsewhere, Rafe Russell unto whom amongst other things this Horsington fell, and John de Botreax: of the former and latter you shall hear elsewhere. This Rafe Russell by his wife Isabell had three sonnes, Rafe the eldest owner of Deorham in Gloucestershire from whose posterity by an heire generall it fell unto the Deneis now owners of it. Robert Russell second sonne unto whom the Moyetie of the Barony of New church, soe was it then called fell, part of which this Horsington was, dyed issuesse,³ and left this estate unto his younger brother Sir William Russell⁴ who was father of Theobald⁵ unto whom his wife Elianor daughter and coheire unto Sir Rafe de Gorges brought, besides a faire portion of land, two sonnes Sir Rafe Russell⁶ and Theobald. Rafe was father of Sir Maurice,⁷ and he of Sir Thomas⁸ in whom that name ended.

As for Theobald⁹ but now spoken of, he reccaving his chief

¹ Domesday.

⁴ Inq. 29 E. 1.

⁷ Ibid. 10 H. 4.

² Camden.

⁵ Ibid. 3 E. 3.

⁸ Esc. 10 H. 6.

³ Esc. 25 E. 1.

⁶ Ibid. 49 E. 3.

⁹ Ibid. 4 R. 2.

preferment from his mother, in a gratefull acknowledgement of it assumed both her name and Armes, writing himselfe as I have frequently seene in deedes of Edward the third's time, Theobaldus Gorges filius Theobaldi Russell, and useing for his seale a Whirlepoole; whereas his brother Rafe Russell used 3 besants on a chief both which the Gorges still remaineing and flourishing in this Countie, Wilts, and elsewhere, observe duly untill this day.

As for this place when for want of Russell's issue male it came by discent unto Sir Theobald Gorges grandchild of the former as his next heir male, he left it to a younger sonne Richard Gorges,¹ and his two grandchildren parted it, which were Elizabeth the wife of Thomas Sherley, and Mawde [wife] of Edward Ludlow whose children joyned in a sale of it to the Gawens of verie ancient gentry and good respect in Wilts, who still enjoy it and have lately built a new house there, the place for the pleasant site and other conveniences well deserving it.

Take here for a conclusion that which concludes most places, the Armes of those families before mentioned, but before I doe that, I will lett you know that at the latter of theis two places I meane Cheriton, is now a dwellinge of a younger branche of the ancient and noble family of Willoughby.

Newmarch: Gules five fussels in fesse or.

Newmarch: Arg. five fussels in fesse gules.

Newmarch: The same with 5 escollopps or on the fussels.

Huscarle: As above in his seale, [a bend cotised between 6 acrones (? acorns)].

Mocles: Arg. two barrs gules, in chief 3 torteauxes.

Russell: Arg. on a chief gules 3 besants. } In Horsington

Russell: Ermin on a chief gules 3 besants. } Church.

Deneis: Gules 3 leopards heads jessant flower de luces arg., a bendlet ingrailed azure.

Gorges: Asure a whirlpool argent.

Gorges: Lozenges or and asure as it is in this church. It was Moreville's coat, and having married the heir they gave the same coat long after.

Sherley: Paly of six or and asure, a canton ermin; a difference.

Ludlow: Arg. a cheveron betw. 3 wolves' heads erased sab.

¹ Esc. 20 E. 4.

Gawen : Ermine on a saltier engr. az. 5 fleurdelys or.
 Willoughby : Quarterly ; the first and fourth, sab. a cross engr. or ; second and third, gules a crosse sarcell arg. a difference. Theis were the coates of Robert Ufford Earle of Suffolke and John Beke Baron of Eresby whose heires Willoughby having married laid aside their own Armes, being or fretty asure, and bare their Coates for their owne.

Gerard rightly suspects the alleged date of the charter by reason of its fulness and composition. There are also more certain arguments. Horsington and South Cheriton were held in 1086 by William Fitzwido, the last-named being in the hands of an under-tenant, Bernard. Estrop was then held directly of the King by Huscarl, 'Anglus thainus.' The family of Newmarche had no possessions in Somerset at this date. In the 'Liber Ruber,' 1166, under Gloucester, Henry de Novo-mercato returns a list of tenants, which includes several Somerset names—Lovel, Pancevot, Frechorne, Galhampton, Cadeberie—so the family was evidently established in the county at that date.

By several entries in the Pipe-rolls for 25 Hen. II. and following years, it appears that Horsington belonged to more than one owner : 1178-9, the sheriff accounts for £4 19s. 4d. of the farm of Horsington, which was the land of Robert de Bouemc't. In the next year's roll Hawisia de Gournay owes 3 marcs of gold for her dowry in H. She also owes 50 marcs for the same dowry by the King's writ. H. de Novo-mercato renders an account of 3 marcs of gold for his (writ of) Right for the same Horsinton. The entry relating to Hawisia is repeated down to 1187. She was the great Somerset heiress of this period, the daughter of Robert de Gournay, dead before 1166. She was married, firstly, to Roger de Baalun ; secondly, to Roger de Clere ; thirdly, apparently to Robert de Bouemc't ; and lastly, to Robert Fitzharding, who survived her.

Henry de Novo-mercato died about 1199, as in the Pipe-roll for that year [. . .] de N. renders an account of 100 marcs for his reasonable relief. The Christian name is obliterated, but it is no doubt William. At this very date he was found to be a leper, and therefore deprived of the management of his lands, which were committed to the custody of Godfrey de St. Martin, and any grants that he might have made were annulled (Close Rolls, June 5, 1199). He seems to have recovered, for by a Final concord levied on the morrow of the Conversion of St. Paul, 1 John (January 26, 1200), he as 'de Novo Foro' makes a grant of his mill at Cadbury. In the second year of the same reign he pays 20 shillings to avoid crossing the sea. In another Fine levied within a month of Michaelmas, 3 John (September 29, 1201), he confirms a warranty. The Rev. J. D. C. Wickham of Horsington has a deed whereby William grants certain lands in Horsington to Thomas Tragin, 'and if I cannot warrant them, then he shall have lands of equal value in my manor of Austeclive.' The deed is not dated ; the non-heraldic seal is much broken. He was dead by 1205 when James de N., most probably his brother, succeeded. So it is evident that William was of the period 1199-1205. The only Roger Huscarl is also found about this

time: in 1210-1 witness to a charter of Richard Rivel, sen.; and in 1218 party to a Fine concerning lands in Bruton (2 Hen. III., No. 3). It seems most probable that the reference to William the Conqueror in the deed must be eliminated, and that the charter represents a real grant to the unfortunate Roger after an enforced commendation to the lord of Horsington.

STOWELL.

A small parish is the third place my digression brings us unto, whose ancient Lords seeing I have mentioned elsewhere,¹ I will leave and only lett you know that in succeeding ages Elizabeth daughter and heire of John Jew (an ill-favoured name you will confesse) by Coles heire of Nethway brought it unto her husband Sir John Hody sonne of Sir Alexander Hody an ancient family I assure you and of great accompt, especially after Sir William Hody second sonne of Sir John was Lord Cheife Baron of the Exchequer. Theis Huddies for now they so are written, remaine unto this daie, and lived at this place untill of late years it was aliened unto a brother of Sir John Dackham of Temple-combe the next place wee shall come to, after you have viewed over their Armes.

Huddy: Arg. a fesse party per fesse indented sab. and vert betw. 3 bareulets sab. [No doubt a clerical error for 4 or 2 probably cotises.]

Huddy: The same within a border ingrailed sab.

Jew: Arg. a cheveron betw. 3 blackmores' heads coupéd sab.

Cole: Arg. a bull passant sa., a border sab. bezantée.

The statement that Stowell had the same owners as Charlton must refer to Charlton Musgrove near Wincanton, as in 1251 they both belonged to Robert de Muscegros of that place (Ped. Fin., 36 Hen. III., divers cos. 278). In 1348 Reginald Molyns was patron, and Sir Edward Molyns owner in 1386 (Coll., II. 379). The pedigree of Huddy in the Visitation of 1573 begins with Sir Thomas (John), husband of Margaret Cole of Nitheway, who was father of Sir John, husband of Elizabeth Jewe. If this family had parted with the manor before Gerard's day, they must have reserved the advowson, for Lucy Hody and John her son were patrons in 1709.

TEMPLECOMBE.

Was soe called for that in former ages it was a preceptory or commandery of the knights Templars, an order which began

¹ apud Charlton.

in the yeare of our Lord 1113, the thirteenth of King Henry the first, and tooke that name because their residence was neere the Temple of Jerusalem where the body of our Lord Jhesus Christ was buryed, called the Temple of the Sepulchre. Theis of a small beginning (for at first they were but two persons) grew in short time to such esteeme for their glorious Acts in Armes, as they were highly accompted of in all the Christian world; hence came riches and revenues in great abundance, having in every quarter of this Kingdome their Temples, for soe called they their chief seates of which that in Fleet street London was the cheife; others they had at Bristow, Canterbury, Cambridge, Dover, Warwick, and in many other places.

In this estate they flourished two hundred yeares while their infinite wealthe corrupted their virtues and betrayed them to the most detested kinds of licentiousness; in so much that in a generall council holden at Vienna in the year of our Lord 1312 the whole order was supprest, as well as in England as in foraigne parts, and their lands here not long after vizt. the seaventeenth of Edward the second by Act of Parliament were conferred on and confirmed to the Knights of S. John of Jerusalem, who held them till they as the other, but not for the same cause, were by Henry the eight [supprest].

At Templecombe theis knights had an ancient mannor house and Chappell within it, both endowed with divers priviledges, which untill this day they enjoy. As for the owners sithence religious houses were put down they have bin many; it shall suffice therefore onlie to name them, and passe to the next. The first I have found was Richard Duke a Devonshire man whose daughter and heire Catherine brought it in marriage right unto her husband George Brooke second sonne of George Brooke Lord Cobham whose grandchild having much amended the house alienated it to Robert Earl of Salisbury, he to Sir John Dackham, and his sonne to Sir John Bingley now owner of it, who likes the seate and place soe well, that he for the most when he is out of London resides at it.

As for Abbas-combe which adjoynes unto this I have nothing to saie save that anciently it belonged to the Abbesse of Shaston, and soe gott that addition to the name.

Duke : Party per fesse arg. and asure, 3 chapletts counter-changed.

Brooke : Gules on a cheveron arg. a lyon ramp. sab., a cresant.

Dackham : Vert a Griffin segreant arg.

Bingley : Arg. 2 barrs and on a canton sab. a pheon arg.

Gerard, by an intelligent anticipation, calls it Templecombe, in preference to Abbas-combe more generally found, seeing that the site of the railway junction having been placed in the former manor, it has become a notorious place to the extinction of Abbas.

Richard Duke, of Otterton, Devon, was patron 1563, the first vacancy after 1530. His only daughter and heir, Christian (not Catherine, as in the text), widow of George Sprinte,¹ remarried George Brooke, second son of the seventh Lord Cobham.² There were three sons, Peter, Duke, and Charles ; the youngest inherited his brothers' lands, and was buried at Templecombe, April 5, 1610.³ By his will he left his lands to the Earl of Salisbury, 'he to pay off the debts and mortgages.'⁴ The next owner, Sir John Dackombe, was buried at Templecombe, February 3, 1617 ; in his will he mentions, *inter alia*, his manors of Temple- and Abbas-Combe, Endeston and Henstridge, with Moore Park there. His only son John, then under age,⁵ soon passed it to Bingley. There is still a good farmhouse on the site of the preceptory, by the side of the road to Henstridge.

And now are wee come to

HENSTRIDGE.

The last place my digression will draw me unto, and as it is nowe noe way worth my labour, but in former times it had an auncient mansion house furnished with two parkes as old writings showed me, which belonged unto great peeres of the realme, who in their summer journeys for their pleasure and disport sometimes resided at it. Theis were the older Earles of Salisburie, the Earles of Lancaster, the latter Earles of Salisburie, I meane of the Montacutes, and others, as at Charlton [Horethorne] you may read more. This in Henry the eight's time was bought by the owners of Templecombe who still enjoy it.

ENDESTON CORRUPTLY YENSTON.

A chappell lies in this parish of which take this Record.

Willielmus Toomer capellañus tent terr' et teñta in Endeston et Fifhde in comitatibus Somerset et Dorset de Wilmo de

¹ 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' III. 88.

² 'Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Proc.,' XLIV. ii. 63.

³ Ibid. XLV. ii. 12.

⁴ Brown, 'Som. Wills,' I. 4.

⁵ Ibid. VI. 75.

Montacute Comite Sarum de manerio suo de Hengstridge per servitium inveniendi unum capellanum idoneum divina celebrare in capella de Endeston infra manerium predictum.¹

I have only noticed this because I have very seldome found knights service and churchservice joined together. Somewhat south of this yet in the same parish lies

TOMER.

Imparked but that now converted to better use than keeping of deare. This place gave sirname of Tomer unto the auncient owners of it who from the date of old evidence lived at it until Henry the fourth's time when John and Edith son and daughter of Richard de Tomer dying both in one year without issue, Tomer came by Alice their Aunt and heire in marriage right unto William Carant descended from a right ancient and worshipfull family in theis parts whose posterity at this day owne Tomer and for the most part have lived at it.

Tomer: Gules 3 barrs wavy arg.

Carrant: Arg. 3 hurts, or rondles asure, eache charged with 3 cheverons gules.

The house, completely transmogrified, still stands in the park with a dove-cot and fishponds adjoining. In Henstridge church is a fine monument bearing the effigies of William Carent, eldest son of William Carent and Alice Toomer, and Margaret Stourton his wife. On the cornice of the canopy over the tomb are shields bearing—Toomer, Carent and Toomer quarterly, Carent impaling Stourton. Bishop Beckington in 1463 granted forty days indulgence to all true penitents who should make a pilgrimage to this tomb. The effigies of his brother John, with those of his two wives, were lately to be seen lying on the floor of Marnhull church in a neglected condition; but they have now been replaced on a plain altar tomb. The third brother, Nicholas, was Dean of Wells 1448-67; his monument, if he ever had one, has disappeared altogether. The Carents parted with Toomer in 1676 ('Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Proc.,' XVI. i. 44, 45).

Having thus passed over theis places which if I had followed my guide I must have passed over with silence, not for that they want becks and brookes but that they pass immediately into Dorsetshire. Let us returne if you please to Milborne where wee shall find our now companion the river Ivell who unwilling to travel alone, at this place entertains for company a brooke from

¹ Inq. capt. 13 R. 2.

POINTINGTON.

Which I suppose gave the name unto Peter de Pointington for soe was he written not long sithence mentioned.¹ Sure I am it was very anciently the possession of the Cheyneys a noble family of knights who soe much owned the Dawbeneys of theis parts that they gave their Armes of Gules 4 fussels in fesse arg. adding for a difference a black escollop shell on each fussell. Theis originally were of Devon, but after by their severall matches became owners of faire lands both in this Countie, Dorsett, Wilts, and elsewhere. For William de Cheyney² Lord of Pointington in Edward the first's time to [*sic*] to wife Joane the sister and coheire of Thomas de Lamborne then of Lamborne in Wilts; his son Nicholas³ Elianor daughter and coheire of Gilbert de Cnovile of Pokington in Somerset; his second son William⁴ heire to his brother Sir Edmund de Cheyney, Anne daughter and coheire to Rafe de Gorges of Bradpoole in Dorsett. Sir Rafe de Cheyney,⁵ Jone daughter and coheire of John de Pavely Lord of Brooke and Westbury in Wilts. Sir William Cheyney⁶ son of Rafe married Cicily the daughter and coheire of Sir John Streech, who made him father of Sir Edmund Cheyney⁷ as fortunate in matrimony as any of his predecessors for he espoused Alice aunt and after coheire unto Humfrye Stafford Earle of Devon, but in him this family ended for he had only three daughters the eldest of which brought this Pointington with a large inheritance to boote unto her husband Sir John Willoughby issued from the noble stock of the Willoughbys Barons of Eresby in Lincolnshire and the title of Baron Brooke unto her sonne Robert Willoughby knight of the Garter and steward of the house unto Henry the seventh who well testified his affection to him by heaping theis and other honours⁸ on him. His son Robert Lord Brooke by his first wife Elizabeth daughter and heire of Richard Lord Beauchamp of Powick had Edward that dyed his father living, yet father of one daughter that brought this place and a rich inheritance of her grandmother's unto the Grevills in whom of late the title of Baron Brooke by the favour of King James is againe revived.

¹ cart. Ric. de Camvile apud Charlton. ² Inq. 14 E. 1. ³ Esc. 20 E. 2.
⁴ 18 E. 3. ⁵ 2 H. 4. ⁶ 8 H. 5.
⁷ 9 H. 6. ⁸ Earle of Vermundois in France.

I may not overpasse a house here, which heretofore belonged to the Tillies an ancient family as you may see elsewhere.¹ A coheire of them brought it to Sir Edward Parham whose want of issue was the cause it hath suffered many changes, but now it is the seate of Mr. Mallett.

Cheney : Gules 4 fussels in fesse arg., each charged with an escallop sab.

Lamborne : Arg. a fesse betw. 2 chevrons sab.

Cnovill : Gules 5 mullets of six points arg.

Gorges : Lozengy or and asure ; so I find it in her seale.

Pavely : Asure a cross flory or.

Streech : Arg. 3 martletts gules a bendlett ingrailed sa.

Stafford : Or a cheveron gules a border ingrailed sab.

Willoughby : Quarterly ; one and four, sab. a crosse ingrailed or ; two and three, gules a crosse sarcellée arg.
—Ufford and Beke sett for Willoughby [see *ante*, under Horsington].

Beauchamp : Gules a fess betw. six martletts or, a border arg.

Grevill : Sab. on a crosse within a border ingrailed or five ogresses.

Tilly : Arg. a Wiverne sab. an annulett or [on ?] the breast.

Parham : . . .

Mallett : Asure three escallopps or, a difference.

In Domesday it is held under the Count of Moretain by William de l'Estra, who gave two parts of the tithe in Puthintone (Ponditune, Puntintun) to the Priory of Montacute ; but the gift was not permanent. In 1166, among the knights of Richard del Estre in Somerset were Roger de Puintone and Hugh de Poncintone. By a fine levied in 1198, Geoffrey de Pundinton established his right to hold two knight's fees in Pundinton, Kaninges, and Ewias of Peter de Fulcher for one knight's service at Ewias. By another fine levied in 1249, Baldwin de Wayford obtained from John de Puntinton two carucates of land here, together with the reversion of the dower of Scholastica, late wife of Peter de Pointington (the witness). The family of Cheney is first found here in 1258, when Reginald de Mohun by a deed, c. 1257, granted to William de Cheney the manor of P. with the advowson of the church, &c. [Cartæ Antiquæ of Lord Willoughby de Broke, No. 7]. As late as 1327, the family of Poyntington had some land here and at Weston juxta Cammel (*i.e.* Weston Bampfild).

A pedigree of Cheney will be found in 'Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Proc.,' XLII. ii. 4. There is no room for Miss Lamborne if her name was Joan ; and she may have married into the Cheney family of Wellow and Twynyho in

¹ Cannington.

North Somerset, who seem to have been quite distinct from those under review.

The monumental effigy of a man in armour in the church is most probably that of Edmund Cheney, *c.s.p.* 1374-91. The number of fusils in the Cheney coat is four, on the testimony of a tile dug up in the church, though Gerard says five in his account of Barrington, p. 119.

There are two mediæval houses in the village. One near the church is, according to precedent, the manor house of the Cheney's; the other, a fifteenth-century building with a gatehouse, may have been the residence of the family of Burnell (see also under Newton Surmaville, *post*). Henry Burnell of Poyntington, in his will dated 1491, desired to be buried under the high altar of Sherborne Abbey. On the death of his son John in 1544, the main line came to an end.

Gerard's reference to the antiquity of the next owners, the Tillies of Cannington, makes the loss of his account thereof still more regrettable, as in its absence only a few scattered notices can be found. Their arms and a pre-reformation prayer concerning Leonard and Johanna Tilly were in the windows of Cannington church. Thomas Tilly was K.B. temp. Henry VII. George Tilly of Poyntington married at Compton Pauncefort, 1564, Mrs. Mary Joice. They had two daughters, Anne, married to William Walton of Shapwick, and Elizabeth, the wife of Sir Edward Parham, who in her right held the lands in Poyntington and erected the monument in the church. George Tilly died 1592, his widow about 1600. Gerard's statement that there were no children does not seem quite correct, as John Parham presented to the rectory in 1618. There is not much interval for the many changes until Mr. Mallett's arrival by 1633. He afterwards became a judge of the King's Bench ('Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Proc.' XX. ii. 107).

The river Ivel having entertained this Becke presently passeth into Dorsetshire, where taking an increase at Sherborne and another at Bradford, revisiteth its native county at

STAFFORD.

Which from a ford there, now bettered by a bridge, tooke that name. This place surely is much fallen from what it was in former ages, being at this present a meare village or rather hamlett (for it belongs to Berwicke) heretofore an ancient Borow y^e originall I know not that it flourished soe in Edward the firsts daies this Inquisition following shewes:

'Juratores dicunt—Quod Bergus de Stafford liber est in se secundum quod Bergus de Ivelchester; membrum est tamen Manerii de Berwike et sunt ibidem 63 Burgagi.'

And in that state it continued long after.¹ Now it is meane enough, only in greate requeste once a yeare for a plentifull

¹ Vide in *pass.* de annis 22 E. 3; 41 E. 3; 5 H. 5.

fayre there kept on the feast of St. Barnaby when you may see the portgrave of the towne (for that priviledge they continew until this day) guarded with four or half a dozen copper maces walke in greate state, though sometimes he be a man of verie meane estate. The reason of this decay I know not unlesse it were turning the roadway from thence through Ivell, which though it seemes a slender one, yet hath it bin the ruine of farr greater townes than this as divers instances affirme, of which take once for all Wilton,¹ heretofore the cheife and head towne of Wilts, flourished well untill the Bishopp of Salisbury turned the roadway through their Citty ; then began it to come to that state it now stands in, but of this enough. You have heard already that Stafford is in the parish of Berwicke which was heretofore the Capitall Mannor of William de Cantilupp, and of that fee divers gentlemen in theis parts hold their lands. This man was seneschall to King Henry the third, and his grandchild George Baron of Aburgaveny ; who having noe issue male his estate fell to his sisters married unto Henry Hastings the ancestor to Laurence Earle of Pembroke, and Eudo la Zouche ancestor to the Lords Zouche of Harringworth, but from the first named William de Cantilupe issued Richard de Cantilupe who held Chilton Cantelupe and other lands not farr off of the fee of Berwicke, and changed his Ancestors' Armes being Gules three leopards' heads jessant flowerdeluces or, unto Asure as many such heads or. And from him by heires generall the Lord Laware, Stewkley and others are descended. I have noe more to say of theis places but that having often changed Lords in latter time, are nowe the possession of Mr. Symes. [For Barwick and Stoford, see 'Historic Notes on South Somerset.']

Hence the River holds on its course through passing riche meadows and pastures by

NEWTON.

Which shewes a handsome new house built by Mr. Harbyn, now owner of it, for his residence pleasantly sceated over the River and under a hill besett with groves of trees. This was anciently the possession of Phillipp de Solmaville² after corrupted to Sormavile whence it gott the name of Newton

¹ Camb. p. 246.

² Regist. de Abodesbury.

Sormavile which yet it retaines. Held it was in those dayes by pettie serjeanty, vizt.,

'Reddendo annuatim scaccario ad festum sancti Michaelis j mappam novam longitudini 10 ulnarum et j manutergium 5 ulnarum.'

The aforementioned Philipp de Solmavile by Beatrix his wife heire of Wey in Dorsett had three daughters his heires Margery married to Galfride de Warmwelle, Joane to Sir Thomas de Cruckett,¹ and Cicely to Sir Henry de Muleborne. Their posterity long enjoyed theis lands tripartite. Of them Cruckett's heire generall was married unto John Muskett,² his to John Holme,³ his to Tristern Burnell whose posterity enjoyed it untill our grandfathers daies when it was aliened to the Comptons, and not long after by them to the nowe owners of it.

Solmavile : . . .

Warmwell : Three mulletts, out of a seale.

Muskett : . . .

Holme : Arg. a cross botone gules.

Burnell : Arg. a bend betweene 6 brangeese proper.

Compton : Sa. 3 helmetts within a border arg.

Harbyn : Asure a saltier voided betw. 4 spearheads or.

The house admired by Gerard was finished in 1612 by Robert Harbyn. He was succeeded by John his eldest son, high sheriff of Dorset 1625, the owner in 1633 ; and from him it has descended to Colonel Henry E. Harbin, uncle of the editor of the Survey, and with him lineally descended from the author.

In 1208 William Walensis, Knight, and Emma (de Waie) his wife recognized the right to dower in the villes of Waie Newenton and Sidlinch of Matilda, widow of Ralph son of Ruand, and then wife of Robert de Monasteriis.

Before 1225 Philip de Sarumville had purchased Newton for 100 shillings, as by an entry in the Somerset Assize Rolls of that date, it appears that W. Walensis had tried without success to be quit of his bargain ; and three years later Philip accounted at the Exchequer for a tablecloth and a towel, the incidents of the petty serjeanty, for his land at Newton. There was so little real sale of lands at this period, that it was quite probable, as Gerard says, that Philip was the son-in-law of Walensis and Emma, the heiress of Ralph the son of Ruand of Waie, though their daughter would not have been the Beatrix of the text, as she was the child of William Fitzrogers. This may have been a second marriage.

Philip de Salemunville died in 1232, when Alured de Lincoln obtained the custody of his lands. Though his three daughters were all married by 1243,

¹ Esc. 35 E. 1.

² Ibid. 47 E. 3.

³ Ibid. 9 R. 2.

they must have been very young at the date of their father's death, as Johanna lived to 1307. Their names are given in the same order in an entry in the Som. Pleas of 1243; S.R.S., XI. No. 867. The editor has appended a note that lands held in serjeanty had been treated as incapable of division, and the eldest daughter could claim the whole. This statement is quite borne out by the leading position held by the eldest daughter's family. Geoffrey de Wermwelle was succeeded by William, who dated the birth of John de Meriet by the coincidence that in the same year, 1276, he bought his land at Newton. Here also the purchase was probably purely formal. Then came Richard; Roger, who had to walk round Yeovil church in his night-shirt with a candle in his hand for raising a riot against the Bishop; and John. He died in 1435, leaving two daughters, Alice, the wife, firstly, of Richard Penny, and secondly, of Simon Blythe, without children; and Agnes, born in 1405, the wife of Ralph Brett of Caundle Marsh, by whom she had one son, *o.s.p.*

Thomas de Cuket had issue William, who died in 1313, seised of property at Newton, Cricket, Broadway, and Waye Ryward; query, the same as Ruand of the first record. To William succeeded Michael, and as this family is not mentioned again, it very probably merged in that of Muskett of Hescombe in Montacute. John Muskett died in 1351, and his nephew John in 1373, leaving for his heir his daughter Agnes, married to John Holin or Holme.

Cicily Milborne left no children to survive.

In the absence of any positive testimony, I am more inclined to think that Newton came to the Burnell family through Agnes (Warmwell), widow of R. Brett, rather than from an unknown daughter of Agnes (Muskett) Holme, whose interest in Newton was not large. Agnes Burnell, widow of Tristram, died in 1478, and was succeeded by her son Henry, already mentioned under Poyntington. His widow, Isabella, directed in her will, recited in the Inquisition *post mortem* 1525, to be buried in Sherborne Abbey, and that Peter Burnell should have lands to pay an honest priest, a secular and English to sing for the repose of the late Henry Burnell; and if John her eldest son should interfere, then he is never to have the reversion of the said lands. John Burnell sold Newton to John Compton of Beckington in 1510, and died and was buried at Poyntington, 1544. Joseph, the grandson of John Compton, sold Newton in 1608 to Robert Harbyn of Wyke near Gillingham.

The varieties of spelling of the suffix to Newton are endless. Near Rouen there is a small village called Sermonville, which represents the modern French spelling of the original home of the family.

IVELL [YEOVIL].

Of which [Newton] is a member, is the next place the River comes unto and from it takes the name. An ancient Burroughe and Markett it is, yet much increased I believe by the decaye of Stafford and turning the roadway towards London through it. Their antiquity is not certainly known, but their cheife magistrate retayninge the name of Portreeve which was long

before our Mayor seemes to show it. Their weeklie Markett was heretofore on Sundaies (a thing not altogether unusuall in those times) untill King John altered it unto the Friday as it continewes untill this day; whose charter is the ancientest among their evidences as I have seene. The markett, of a little towne, is one of the greatest I have seene, fleshe here is none (for Thursdaies and Saturdaies supplies that) but good sea fishe if any be to be had, but the greatest commodity is cheese, which being made in great abundance in the adjoyning country, is weeklie transported hence both unto Wilts and Hampshire in a very greate quantity; hemp and linen thread are very good chafer with them too.

I cannot commend the towne for the beauty of it, yet of late some have begun to new build; but the Church well observes commendation being a large and curious structure, the whole frame consisting of nothing but faire windows and pillars. And let it not be thought a greater vanity in me than in a grave Lawyer¹ to note that here is as goodly a ring of six bells as anie in a hundred miles, and better deserves mention than his five bells at Hinckley. Underneath the quire or chancel is a faire and very lightsome vault, in which now the towne evidences are kept, but heretofore it served for a revestry. In this church heretofore were two chantries, the one founded by Robert de Samborne² in Edward the third's time, the other by John Sturton³ and others in Henry the fourth's time.

To this church as I have seene amongst the records of it belonged a Rector, 9 chaplains seven singing boies and foure clarkes. The parson of Ivell was and still is Lord of the whole Borroughe, the portreeve, constables and other offices of his or his substitutes election, the severall Courts his. This parsonage was appropriated unto y^e Monastery of Sion in Middlesex and since the dissolution hath past from others unto Sir Robert Phelippes of Montacute.

I may not overpasse the pious worke of William Woborne a petty Canon of St. Pauls in London whose executors John Woborne his brother and Richard Hewitt clarkes injoynd by his will built a Chapell dedicated to St. George and St. Christopher and adjoyning unto it an Almshouse endowing⁴ it with meanes to maintain a Custos two gardians, and twelve

¹ Burton, *descriptio Leicest.*, p. 136.

² *Ibid.* 12 H. 4.

³ *Inq. de quo ad damn.* 22 E. 3.

⁴ *Ibid.* 17 E. 4.

poore people of both sexes equall or at least eight, who were made a corporation having a Common seale, and were injoynd to weare a red crosse on their upper blacke garment, as I thinke owneing St. George for their patron.

I have done with y^e Towne but shall not so soone with y^e Parish, for that it is very large and compriseth within it many Hamletts ; for besides Newton the last and Preston with others before spoken of, there are which I may not overpasse. On the Northside the towne forming rather a back street than a distinct mannor,

KINGSTON.

Belonging to the Lords Fitzpaine from whom by Chidiocke it descended unto the Lord Sturton now owner of it. Within this lyes

WIGTON.

A place of soe little note as lost long sithence were not the name reserved in a tithing. Yet in former ages it gave both name and habitation to the then owners of it of whom I have found Alane de Wigton to have bin Sheriffe of this County and Dorsett the third fourth and fifth of King John, who was father of Walter de Wigton,¹ and he of Sir John de Wigton that dyed issuelless, and five daughters heires to their brother ; married to Kirkbird, Rigate, Astlock, Mothley and Sherwind. Theis Wigtons as a record tells me had their Mansion house at this Wigton and a free-chapell within it.

Of as little note now is

HALL.

Or Hill, which neverthesse gave that surname unto an auncient and worshipfull family, who removed themselves first by purchase unto Houndstone not farr of ; after by match unto Spaxton, and after the same manner into Cornwall where a branch of them flourish unto this day.

Neither hath

HUNTLEY,

Neighbouring unto it done lesse, for it named the Huntleys an ancient family and some of them knights.² Theis seated themselves first at

¹ 14 E. 1.

² ex cart. antiq. in cust. Jo. Sidenham et Tho. Lite arg.

MERSHE.

And after at Neather-Adber where they flourished even untill our grandfathers' daies when all of a suddaine it sunke. As for Mershe¹ Matilda wife unto John de Huntley² left it unto William the sonne of William Carent her heire, whose posterity lived long at it, and were owners of it till of latter yeares.

On the south side of the towne joynes unto it

HINFORD.

Which the heire of Matravers brought it unto the elder Earles of Arundell which sithence hath parted with it; and it will be time for us to part from the Towne too, after you have viewed over theis Coates of Armes.

Fitzpaine: Gules 3 lions passant in pale or, a bend asure.

Chideocke: Gules an Escutcheon within a reale [*i.e.* orle] of martletts arg.; in Evill church.

Sturton: Sab. a bend or betw. 6 fountaines proper; in Evill church.

Huntley: Barry of 6 . . . and . . . , a cheveron . . . ; out of a seale to a deed dated the thirtieth of Edward the first, which seale his successors used long after.

Carent: Arg. 3 roundletts a cheveron asure and gules [azure, each charged with 3 chevrons gu.]; in Evill church.

Matravers: Sable frett or.

Earle of Arundell: Quarterly—Dawbeney and Warren.

The Saxon name of the towne was Gyfle; in Domesday, Givleca and Iula; the form Yeovil being the latest. The river Yeo is generally called in old maps, etc., Ivel, and the town very often Ivell and Evil, without any *arrière pensée*. The Anglo-Saxon town seems to have been the head of a large district, which included not only the Hundreds of Stone and Yeovil, but also Horethorne, Tintinhull, and Houndsborough with Barwick. The early manorial history of the town and parish is dealt with in the inaugural address by the President of the meeting at Yeovil in 1886, J. Batten, F.S.A., and a paper by E. Green, F.S.A., in 'Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Proc.' XXXII.; and in another paper by the former in Vol. XLIV. pt. ii.; and from those collections the following notes are compiled, together with extracts from the Western Chronicle Historical Series.

¹ Esc. 1 E. 2.

² Ibid. 22 E. 3.

The town was burnt down in 1440 (and again in 1640), which may account for Gerard's disparaging tone, though Leland calls it 'meately well buildyd.' They both agree about the church, being especially struck with its lightness. In the windows were formerly 'divers old inscriptions, coats of arms, and figures.' These were only the wrack of the tempest of the Rebellion, which smashed up the organs, and of the physical hurricane of 1703, which blew in the windows (contemporary note). What one and the other had spared disappeared before the restoration of 1860, and the church does not now contain a single fragment of ancient glass.

The Chantry Returns of 1548 mention four endowed chantries—Holy Trinity, B.V. Mary, Name of Jesus, and Holy Cross. Leland says, four or five endowed with lands. Collinson adds a second chantry of the B.V. Mary and St. John Baptist.

The descent of the manor of Kingston is traceable from Hugh de Say, temp. Henry II., through the Chidiocks to Lord Stourton, by one of whom it was sold to Mr. Prowse. There was a chapel here, and though the building has long since disappeared, and the parish merged in that of St. John's, it is still in existence as the sinecure of Kingston-Pitney. That such a common place-name as Kingston should require a cognomen is not surprising, but why Pitney should have been chosen is not so clear, as it is only the name of an incumbent appointed in 1335.

The tithings of Wigton and Huntley represent the moieties of Kingston, which, after the death of Gilbert de Say, about 1230, descended to his daughters, Edith, wife of Thomas de Huntley, and Matilda, wife of Thomas de Arderne. Arderne's share was sold to Walter de Wigton, father of John, dead 1315. His five sisters were first found his heirs, but later on his daughter Margaret, having established her legitimacy, was declared sole heir. John de Wigton, during his lifetime, sold his share to Fitzpayne.

As Gerard notes, Huntley and Marsh are closely connected. In 1389 the Huntleys held Nether-Adbeer with remainder to the Carents; but the cause of their disappearance is not known. 'Our grandfathers daies' was a very dangerous period, when religion and politics made quicksands in which far greater families 'all of a suddaine sunke.' Matilda, wife of John de Huntley, and Joan, wife of William de Carent and mother of another William, were most probably sisters and heirs of Walter de Tryl. Leonard Carent of Toomer sold his share of Kingston Pitney (including a third of the advowson) and Yeovil Marsh to Joseph Compton of Newton in 1589, who resold it in 1608 to Mr. Harbyn, the purchaser of Newton.

Hill was no doubt a separate holding near Yeovil Marsh, and at one time was owned by the family of Romsey, who held the adjacent manor of Oakley in Chilthorne Domer as early as 1205. Walter de Romsey held Oakley and Hill in 1319, and the manors came by descent to Thomas Horsey, d. 1477. The pedigree of Hill of Houndston in the Visitation of 1573 begins with Sir John Hill, judge of the King's Bench, who died in 1400; but it is very unlikely that he took his name from this particular Hill, as he was of Kitton in Holcombe Rogus, co. Devon.

Hinford, now Hendford, like Kingston, has been absorbed into Yeovil. Henry, Earl of Arundel, sold it to Queen Elizabeth in 1561. In Gerard's time it belonged to the Earl of Northampton.

From this towne the River now growne a full-bodied streame holds on its course by

TRENT.

The place which now gives me habitation. It was anciently a member of the Barony of Walter le Brett who held it in right of his wife the Lady Jone Brewer heire of Fleming, widowe of the Lord William de la Brewer, and mother of a second William that dyed issuelles Anno 1232, and five daughters heires to their brother's estate; but in the meane time Trent by what conveyance I surely knowe not, fell to the noble family of Canteluppe one of which being founder of the Priory of Stodeley in Warwickshire gave unto it a third part and the other two parts unto his younger sonne Sir William de Canteloe. For the main branche of this family I need not speake much; the Lords of Abergaveny, the elder Earles of Pembroke, the Earles of Kent and Lord Zouches descended from them, show their nobility. Sir William¹ before named was father of Walter de Canteloe who in King John's² time impleaded his uncle Robert de Canteloe for the mannor of Chillenton now Chilton Canteloe not farr of. His son Richard³ owned theis places and left them unto John⁴ his sonne; and he to his two daughters and heires Emma married unto Alane le Chasteline, and Margerie unto . . . West. The elder daughter had Thomas le Chasteline,⁵ and he Jone his heire thrice married, yet left issue only by her third husband Robert de Wike whose heire generall not long after brought that part of Trent unto the ancient family of Steukley knights who made it their cheife seate untill by the heire of Aston they removed to Aston in Devon where they still remaine; but Sir Hugh Steukley in H. 8 time sold his part of Trent unto John Young ancestor to the now owners of it.

From Margery West before spoken of came Sir Thomas West who in Edward the third's time exchanged his house and manor of Trent with John de Testwood for his manor of Testwood near Southampton, as by his deed in my custodie dated the fourthieth of Edw. 3 appeares, sealed with three leopards heads jesant flowerdeluces, y^e Armes of Cantelupe yet circumscribed with his own name. From him descended Sir Thomas West in our time Lord of and dwelling at Testwood.

¹ cart. in cust. Tho. Lyte arg.

² Inq. 1 E. 1.

⁴ Esc. 23 E. 3.

³ Plita. 12 John.

⁵ Ibid. 17 E. 2.

As for John de Testwood de Trent by his exchange, he was father of a second John, and he of a third John whose inheritance fell by his only daughter and heire Isolda unto Thomas Lane, and this in the y^e same manner to John Storke, whose predecessors had long remained in Dorsetshire and whose posterity flourished here until Tristram Storke left four daughters his heires married unto Compton Seymer Larder and William Gerard my greate grandfather, from whom they [Mid. Engl. variant for though] shee were the youngest sister the principall house of them is descended to myself.

There was a Chauntrey in this Church founded by my predecessor John Testwood but thats vanished and I thinke it will hardly be worth your labour to view a little fort of earth made by mans hand for the most part which wee call Trent Barrow, seated on y^e East of y^e Village, seeing I can show you nothing but the place as never having found the rayser [?] or occasion.

Brett: Or a lion rampant gules.

Brewer: Gules 2 bends wavy or.

Fleming: Vairey a cheife chequey or and gu.

Cantelupe: Gules 3 leopards heads jessant flowerdeluces or.

Cantelupe of Trent: As the former, the feild asure.

Chasteline: Gu. a chevron betw. 3 castles triple-towered arg.

West: Arg. a fesse indented sab.

Wike: Arg. a cheveron gu. betw. 3 crosses molyn sab.

Wike: The same, adding 3 Castles arg. on y^e chevron.

Steukley: Asure 3 peares or.

Aston: Arg. a chevron ingrailed betw. 3 flowerdeluces sab.

Young: Or 3 roses and a quarter gules.

Testwood: Arg. an eagle displaied sa. This and many others in my hall.

Lane: Asure 3 covered cupps gules.

Storke: Asure a storke propper within a border ermine.

Compton: Sa. 3 helmetts within a border arg.

Seymer: Gules a pair of wings or, and a cressant.

Larder: Ermin 3 piles in point sab., on each 3 besants.

Gerard: Quarterly; one and four, Asure a lion ramp. ermine crowned or for Brinn; y^e second and third, Arg. a saltier gules for Gerard.

Gerard's account of the early history of this place has been superseded by the papers on Trent (by Mr. J. Batten, 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XX.) and on

the Honour of Odcomb and Barony of Brito (by the Rev. T. Bond, same series, Vol. XXI.).

After the death of Walter Bret, c. 1198, descended from Ansger Bret, the Domesday tenant of Trent under the Earl of Moretain, his nephew and co-heir Walter Croc granted in 1200 to Richard Brewer, son and heir of William Brewer the elder, a moiety of the Bret barony. Richard died in his father's lifetime, and Trent came to his brother William. He also died without children, and his estates, subject to the dower of his widow Joane, were divided between his sisters. Trent fell to Grecia, wife of William de Braose, whose son William again left only three daughters. Eva married William de Cantilupe, and their share was given to Studley Priory in Warwickshire. Their only son George died issueless in 1272. Eleanor married Humphrey de Bohun, and their third passed through Seford to the family of Chasteleyn, of whom Thomas (not Alan, as in our author) married Eva, daughter and co-heiress of John de Cantilupe of Chilton Canteloe. Maud de Braose, wife of Roger de Mortimer, sold her third to Henry de Woolavington, a free tenant of the Cantilupes of Barwick. From that family it came to Sir Thomas West, husband of Margaret, the other daughter, and co-heir of John de Cantilupe, and thence to Gerard himself. For his family, see Introduction.

I have staied you long here. Wee will now if you please visitt some neighbour places, and our guide the River brings us immediately to

MUDFORD.

Which name it very well brookes being exceeding dirty and miry, but countervailles that with y^e extraordinary richnes of the soile producing grasse and corne in greate plentie. I have scene an old deed of this place, which though it be without date yet the character seemes to point it out for Henry the second or Richard y^e firsts time, and will take y^e paines to transcribe it, choose you whither you will read it or noe.

Notum fit omnibus presentibus et futuris quod ego Henricus dñs de Modiford dedi et hec presenti carta mea confirmavi Will'mo Mallett domino de Enemer duos firlingos terre in villa mea de Modiford cum omnibus p'tinent. suis in liberum maritagium cum Sara filia domini Reymundi de Sulley unum scilicet quem Ansketill tenuit et alterum quem Galfridus Dodd tenuit habend' et tenend' sibi et heredibus suis de predicta Sara nalituris¹ de me et heredibus meis communi pasture quantum pertinet ad tantam terram in eadem villa et cum omnibus aliis libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus sicut aliquod maritagium melius et liberius dare potest. Hiis testibus, Joh'e de Erleya,

¹ see the word is in y^e originall.

Joh'e de Raegni, Joh'e filio Joh'is de Erleya, Rad'o de Wanci, Galf'de Erleya, Joh'e de Aure, Willmo de Funtenay, et multis aliis.

The seale was a large dubble rose with his name inscribed. It seems at that time Mudford had but one Lord ; shortly after it acknowledged 3, which were Rumsey somewhere else spoken of ;¹ Danney whose turne followes ; and the Priour of Montacute ; which were accordingly known by y^e names of Mudford Terri, Westmudford, and Upmudford where the monkes of Montacute on a pleasant seate built a little Chappell and Cell since converted into a dwelling house, and lately begun to be enlarged by the nowe owner of [it], my good neighbour Mr. Harbin. Something west of this stands Socke a member of Mudford of little note surely, were it not for a handsome new house lately built by my neighbour Mr. Bois neare the place where his predecessors lived.

HENTON.

Is the last place that Mudford affords us, seated on the very River where you may see the place though neither rubble or ruine moated in where heretofore stood a large house as it seems by the ground anciently the possession of the Dannies or D'Attnies a right noble family of knights whose faire estate in Cornwall, where they most resided and where their monuments remaine untill this day as Mr. Carewe his survaye of it hath observed, and elsewhere fell to Emeline the only child of the last Sir John Dawbeney² who was married to Sir Edward Courtney second sonne of Hugh Earle of Devon and father of Edward Earl of Devon whose posterity long after enjoyed it. Thus much for the auncient Lords of theis places, and I thinke it will be very needlesse to trouble either you or myselfe to scrutine y^e severall owners of them sithence they parted with them, especially seeing they are all save those before mentioned destitute of Mansion houses and by consequence of gentlemen.

Harbin : Asure a saltier voided betw. 4 speares heads or.

Bois : Arg. on a cheveron gules betw. 3 oken trees proper
3 besants.

Danney : Arg. on a bend cotised asure 3 cinquefoils or.

Courtney : I think is unknowne to none.

¹ vide Chilterne.

² Sic in MS., but rectius 'Daunay.'

See a paper on Mudford and its church by J. Batten, 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLV. There is a pedigree of Bois in the Visitation of 1623. The manor house at Up-Mudford has a picturesque gable. Hinton is also referred to in the above paper, pp. 190, 191.

The River being now entered into [the] prime vale of this Countie which I dare affirme equalls if not surpasseth any of this Kingdome, presently leaves on the one side

ASHINGTON.

Soc named of a grove of Ashes and meadowes ; for -ing, with our ancestors the Saxons intimated a meadowe. Now and for a long time the cheife seate of y^e St. Barbes a family as ancient as any whatsoever in this tracte. Written they were in old records de Sancta Barbara, and became owners of this place by matching with Margaret daughter to Sir Hugh Longland of Axbridge and Margaret his second wife, coheire to Sir Matthew de Forneaux whose Ashington formerly was.

St. Barbe : Chequey arg. and sab.

Longland : Arg. a wiverne volant sab.

Forneaux : Gules a bend betw. 6 crossletts or.

This place soon after Doomsday came to the family of Fitzwilliam, which became extinct in the male line about 1200. Joan Fitzwilliam married Henry de Furneaux, grandfather of Sir Matthew, after whose death the manor descended as stated in the text.

On the other side the River stands

CHILTON.

In old records Chelinton which from the elder Lords gott the addition of Canteloe as being their possession, and owned by a younger branch of that family of which I have spoken enough a few leaves before at Trent whither I referr you [see also 'Historical Notes on S. Somerset']. Hence repassing the River we come to

DRAYCOTE.

Now showing amongst many riche pastures here and there a house, but in former times better inhabited. Y^e name seems to be taken from a house or cote seated on the Dray or Drey which anciently betokened a passage in miry places or in Forrests.

Aller Dray or many drays which name they still retaine neere Forrests are a sufficient confirmation of the opinion.

But to leave this, the greatest credit it had was imparting the same name to an auncient family who also lived here. I have found mention in the Lieger Book of Bruton¹ of Sir William de Draycot who became owner of Redlinche by the coheire of Eustace de Redlis, of Rafe de Draycot his sonne and Robert his grandchild before the date of evidences from whose posterity Redlinche by a female heire fell to the Fitzjames not long since owners of it. But Draycot by the gift of his father came to Peter de Draycote second sonne of Robert before spoken of whom I have found in the aforequoted booke, witnes unto a deed dated the twelfth of King John, and whose only daughter and heire Isabell brought Draycott in marriage right unto her husband Robert le Lyte² ancestor to those Lytes still remayning at Lytes Cary and till of latter time Lords also of Draycot, but if you desire to know how soe eminent an house came to ruine I will show you out of an evidence in English in the hands of my very worthy friend Thomas Lyte Esquire, which for the strangeness of it, being the only [one] I have seene of that kind I have taken the paines to transcribe it verbatim as followes:

I. made by Edmund Lyte.

This shalbe in remembrance to all mine heires for evermore. That my place at Draycot was brent in the raigne of King Richard the second, and the most part of all mine evidences and therefore I lett writt by the advise of my brother Carant and of my brother John Fakoner and Sir Rafe Credye priest the which this writt of the Petigree of which the said Edmund Lyte is lineally comen of, I wrete at Mersh on our Lady day on y^e sixt yeare of the same King. That is to say that William Lyte sargeant was wedded to Margery the daughter of John Glanfeild which William and Margery had issue Robert and Piers. Robert sonne and heire of William was wedded to Isabell the daughter of Peirs of Draycote, and the said Peirs geaffe parcell of the mannor of Draycot and all the land he had in Miltun Podimore yn their mariage. The said Robert and Isabell had issue Robert sonne and heire of them which was wedded to Margarette y^e daughter of Roger de Gotehurst, the which Robert and Margarette had issue—Peirce and Eleanor. Peirs was weded to Anne

¹ Regist. Bruton.

² ex. eviden. Tho. Lyte arg.

daughter of Richard Blanfeld. Piers and Agnes [Anne] had issue Edmund Lite which was heire to Tristram and inherited by him Brixton English in the shere of Devinshire and of right he should have Groundesborow in Norfolke beside Ipswich, for I the said Edmund was there and spake with my Beldomir and modir to the said Tristram, and shee prayed me to be still upon mine owne. I made myne Atturney then to take heed upon myne lond and to send for me when need were. And soe my Beldomir dissesed and he that I made myne Atturnee was y called Gerard and he entred in lond in my name, and kepted it to his owne behoofe, soe that long after I came thither to seize on my lond and the said Gerard myne atturney aliened my lond to a knight the which was y-called Sir John Bowrbage, and he arrieried the Countie upon mee to keep me out of myne inheritance.

And for soe much myne evidences were brent thereof, I could never sew the lawe against myne adversaries in that Countie, and because myne Eyris should have knowledge thereof I lett writt this, on my soule hele, and that afore God to answere at the day of Doome, this is trew every dele, and that will answere all the Countrie that I was brent, and all my good every dele and soe many as were in my governance at that days of myne evidence also, and that wole witness all Lymington all Ashington Mudford Chilton Mersh Yeuliton and many moe if need be, for hit was noysett in all the Countre.

If you mislike the Orthographic in this old English decd blame the good priest Sir Rafe who it seems was not guiltie of Latin that could noe better write English, if the stile please you not, blame the times who I doubt not then thought it as good language as the most refined and metely English now spoken. For my part I am only transcriber and have bin soe just in it that I have followed every letter; but I will conclude this with the Armes of such as I have mentioned according to my custome, and passe to Ivelton.

Draycot: Arg. a crosse ingrailed sab., an egle in y^e dexter quarter gul.

Redlis: . . .

Fitzjames: Asure a dolphine arg. betw. 3 mullets or.

Lyte: Gules a cheveron betw. 3 swannes argent.

Glanfild: Arg. a chefe indented asure.

Gotchurst: Sab. on a mount vert a goate passant arg.

Blanfeild: . . .

Sir H. Maxwell Lyte has traversed Gerard's history in his account of the Lytes of Lytescary, 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXXVIII. ii. 14.

IVELTON [YEOVILTON].

The Parish church of Draycot, is seated on the furthest bank of the River Ivell, and taken that name from it imparted it to the ancient owners, who had a mansion house there. Sir William de Geovelton¹ flourished in King Henry the third's time (then both he and the place were soe written). He was father of a second William² and grandfather of Peter de Yewelton in whose deed of a tenement in Yewelton dated the thirty six of Edward the third, I have seene affixed his seale of Armes vizt. two barrs nebule, the coullers I found to be white in a black field. This Peter left but one only daughter married to Robert Martin eldest sonne of Sir Robert Martin both which I have seene witnesses to one deed³ differenced by the names of Robert Martin of Walterston knight and Robert Martin of Evilton but he dying issulesse,⁴ his estate fell unto Richard Martin his brother, and his widowe unto Thomas Paine of Speckington a neere neighbour for they were of one parish. By him shee had a daughter married to John Sturton of Preston for his third wife, where you may see more.

This Spekenton had aunciently owners of the same name for I have seene in a deed⁵ as old as Edward the firsts time Thomas de Speketon filius et heres Will'mi de Speketon, dated at this place. In the next king's raigne⁶ it became y^e possession of Robert le Fitzpaine a baron who founded and endowed a Chauntry⁷ in the Chappell adjoyning to his house at Spekenton. From theis by Poynings it fell hereditarily to the Earles of Northumberland, and from them came to the Crowne, from whence Henry the eight granted⁸ it to William Hodges, and his issue enjoyed it till of late they sold it to Mr. Hunt now owner of it.

Evilton which I have almost lost in prosecuting this member of it was after the possession of Sir John Cobham⁹ issued from a younger branche of the Lord Cobhams of Cobham in Kent,

¹ Regis. Bruton Hugo Geovelton avus dñi Will'i. ² ex cart. Tho. Lyte arg.

³ cart. Petri Glamorgan de Brimpton dat. 15 Ed. 3. penes Johis. Sidenham arg.

⁴ ex cart. Johis. Brune milit.

⁵ cart. Tho. Lyte arg.

⁶ Esc 9 E. 2.

⁷ Inq. de quo ad damn. 8 E. 2.

⁸ Pat. dat.

⁹ Esc. 3 H. 4.

but his daughter Elisa:¹ the wife of Walter Charlton dying issulesse it reverted to Robert Hill of Spaxton in right of his wife coheire to Sir Thomas Fitchett who had wedded Ricarda heire to John Inkpen who derived his descent from a daughter and at last coheire of John de Cobham, auncester to Sir John but now spoken of. As for the succeeding Lords I will neither trouble you with relateing nor myselfe with seeking them.

Being once in this church I saw a Coate of Armes in a window, the only that I remember was left ; and it was Vert a fesse or betweene three swanns arg. After I had bestowed much labour in searching whose it should be, presuming it belonged to some of y^e ancient Lords and failing in my presumption, I lighted accidentally on the will of Thomas de Bekinton Bishop of Bath and Wells which he made Anno 1464 in King H. 6. time, and finding Richard Swanne rector of Yewelton his cheife executor straite imagined it was his Armes. But thus much of Ivelton and enough, if not too much.

Yewelton : Sab. two barrs nebulée arg.

Martin : Arg. 2 barrs gules, a label asure.

Paine : Sab. 3 lozenges arg., a border ingrailed or.

Sturton : Sa on a bend or betw. 6 fountains proper a mullett.

Spekinton : . . .

Fitzpaine : Gules 3 lions passant in pale arg., a bend asure.

Poincings : Barry of six or and vert a bendlet gules.

Percy : Or a lion rampant asure.

Hodges : Or 3 crescents and on a quarter sa. a crownett or.

Hunt : Asure 2 cheverons betw. 3 martlets or.

Cobham : Gules on a cheveron or 3 eglets sab.

Fitchett : Gules a Lyon ramp. or, a bendlet ermine.

Inkpen : Gules 2 barrs gemells or, a chefe indented ermine.

This is now Yeovilton ; Draycott is in the parish of Lymington. The manorial descent is very confused. The pedigree of Martin of Athelhampston, in the Dorset Visitation of 1623, begins with Sir Robert, the husband of Elizabeth Yeovilton. The arms of Swanne have disappeared, but those of Beckington, though somewhat mutilated, may still be seen in the west window of the church.

Hence the River leads to

¹ Esc. 2 II. 5.

LYMINGTON.

A neere neighbour parish sceated on the banke of it in a riche and fruitful soile, but soe are all places seated on it. A brave manor this was when intire and large demesne, but it hath bin long divided for Edward the second's Survey¹ tells me that one part of it belonged to Oliver de Todenham, another to Richard de Gevernay or Jevernay for both wayes was he written ; and not long after Henry Power² left a part of it unto William Marshall who had married his only daughter Joane, which from him tooke the name of Lymington Marshall, and at this day by corruption called Lymington Marshwell as another in like manner gott y^e name of Lymington Todengham from y^e possessors, a family very auncient and of knights degree, who were originally of and lived in Devonshire.

Sir Robert de Todenham was the last owner of this place for in Edward the third's time he allienated it unto Sir William de Aumarle.

I remember I have scene a faire tombe on the grave of this Sir Robert de Todenham in the Collegiate Church of S. Mary Ottery in Devon opposite to another of the same fabricke rayed in memory of John Grandison Bishopp of Exon founder of that church and colledge who was his wives unkle for he married Catherine daughter of Sir Thomas Patishall by Mabell his wife sister and coheire to the Lord Grandison brother unto this Bishopp whose Armes being Pally of six or and gules only differenced with a mullett of six points sa, are sett for Todenham a thing even usuall in those times for a man to wave his own armes, and take his mothers or his wives if an inheritrix.

I noted this the sooner to sett them in right who for the descendants of Patishall have framed instead of this Coate, Arg. a fesse sab. betw. 3 cressants gu.

But to leave this Sir William de Aumarle left twoe daughters heires to their brother, married [to] Sir John de Matravers and Sir William de Bonville who amongst much other lands had this part of Lymington ; and the other which I shall by and by speake of by purchase from the heire generall of this family besides a goodly heritage y^e titles of Lord Bonville and Harrington, came to Thomas Grey Marquisse Dorset. All this his

¹ Nom. Villar. 9 E. 2.

² Inq. 35 E. 3.

sonne Henry lost by attainder the first yeare of Queene Mary and Lymington soone after came to y^e predecessors of Sir Henry Rowswell of Devon now owner of it, yet one of his name granted divers freeholds in it which will be needlesse to specifie.

I told you in the first division of this place that Richard de Geverney had a moyety of it though after as erst nowe I noted united by Bonvile. The ancestor of him tooke name from Gevernay¹ a place soe called neer Cannington which also fell to Bonvile which makes it more probable by descent but whether by Aumarle's heire as descended from the other I know not. Theis sometime flourished in knights degree for soe was Richard de Gevernay witness to a deed dated second Ed. 2²; for his predecessors I have found frequent mention among the old deeds of my often mentioned friend Thomas Lyte Esq.; but Richard it seems was the last for he buried his sonne John before him whose tomb you may [see] lying in y^e arch between Lymington church and a little Ile with a Chauntry in it built and endowed by the said Richard on the north side the Church which was built soe firmly (for it hath noe timber at all in it but a strong vault of stone, and carved with large freestones on the outside), that time hath little prevailed on it untill this day. Here also I found the effigies of the founder lying on a flatt tombe armed at all points, having on his arme his shield which had carved on it a Bend between 6 scolloppe. At his foot on the very ground lies buried his wife Gunnora for soe I find her name in y^e last quoted Inquisition, but nothing on the tombe save her effigies. Theis and their predecessors had a mansion house something the north side of the Church where they long lived, now soe demolished as not the footings to be seene. This tradition hath left to the inhabitants by the name of the Castle. If you consider the name it suteth very well with the situation being compounded of three words, Lim-ing-ton, which signifies a place or towne seated by the water amongst meadows; but I will not hold you longer here, then while you view theis Coates which follow:

Todenham: Gules 3 bars indented arg.

Oliver de Todenham: Asure 3 barrs indented arg.

Todenham having married Patishall: Paly of [6] or and gules, on a cheife arg. a mullett of 6 points sab.

¹ vide Inq. capt. 9. E. 4.

² cart. in custod. Jo. Sidenham arg.

Patishall: Y^e same without y^e mullett.
 Marshall: Arg. a cheveron betw. 3 leopards heads gu.
 Gevernay: A bend betw. 6 escollopps.
 Aumarle: Per fesse gules and asure 3 cressants arg.; in
 Limington Church.
 Bonville: Sab. 6 mulletts arg.
 Grey: Not unknowne.
 Rowsell: Per pale gules and asure a lyon rampant.

For the early owners of Lymington, see papers by J. Tanswell (with illustrations) in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' VII. ii., and by J. Batten in same 'Proc.,' XXXIII. ii. 137, and in 'Historical Notes on S. Somerset.' It is a curious slip to suppose that Gyvernay took the name from Gournay Street in Cannington. It is from Gyvernay in Normandy.

Neere unto this towne fall into Evill two rills in one streame both coming from the East. The first of them I do not much doubt to call Camell seeing it is full of turnings and windings which the Brittaines named Cam and Camell; and upon that respect gave y^e name of Camell unto a River in Cornwall as that Camellford unto a towne seated on it; neither is this destitute of places seated on it of the same name, which hath soe much confirmed my opinion that I aske leave of Leland to leave his conjecturall name Cade. This ariseth not farr from

MAPERTON.

A little obscure village yet heretofore the Capitall or cheife manor of the Barony de Moeles more anciently Newmarch or de Novomercato as the ensuing record shows.

'Rogerus de Moeles tent maneria de Maperton &c. cum aliis maneriis in diveris comitatibus &c. de Baronia de Novo mercato &c.'

'Extenta et feod' militum et advocatio ecclesiarum que fuerunt Nicholai de Moeles (he was sonne of Roger) die quo obiit &c. Juratores dicunt quod predictus Nicholaus habuit feoda subscripta pertinent' ad manerium suum de Maperton. Quod quidem manerium est capitale manerium totius Baronie.'¹

Thus much of the place. As for the men you shall find more of them by and by when we have done with

¹ Esc. 23 E.

COMPTON PAUNSFOT.

The next place this rill brings us unto. The latter addition it tooke from the auncient owners, it being not only the inheritance but the cheif dwelling of them. I will not specifie every owner of this place which bare that name, yet will not overpasse Sir Grimbald Paunsfot very ancient, and Sir William Paunsfot who lived in the beginning of King John's¹ time, nor Sir Walter Paunsfot in Henry the seaventh's time; who soe is desirous of more, the margent² will show their times. The last named having lost his only sonne left his estate to twoe daughters married to John Brent and John Whiting from whom Compton soone passed by an inheritrix unto Humphrey Keynes heire male of that ancient and notable family of Keynes which I have spoken of at large *in my Survey of Dorsett*, and from him the now owner of it is lineally descended.

Paunsfot: Party per fess asure and gules 3 flower de luccs or.

Brent: Gules a wiverne volant arg.

Whiting: Arg. a bend nebulée cotised sab.

Keynes: Asure a bend cotised wavy arg.

The family of Pauncefoot (with innumerable variations) were tenants of South Cadbury as early as Doomsday, when Bernard Pancevolt held South Cadbury and Dunkerton in this county. The pedigree in the Visitation of 1573 begins with Sir Grimbald P., temp. Edw. I. For further details concerning this family and the heraldry on the monument in the church, which has the unusual feature in Somerset of a spire, I may refer to my paper in the 9th report of the Wincanton Field Club.

Over this stately seated stands

CADBURY.

Which reaching farr is now divided into two, according to the situation called North Cadbury and South Cadbury. It seems Lelands opinion was they tooke name from the River which he and one³ more that followes him calls Cade, but a farr wiser man⁴ than either of them judgeth it to have bin that

¹ Plita. 3 R. John.

² Esc. 3 E. 2; 9 E. 2; 11 E. 3; 43 E. 3; and y^e leiger of Bruton more ancient than any of theis.

³ Hollinshead.

⁴ Camden, in Belge, p. 22.

Cathbregion whereat Ninnius writes the noble and valiant King Arthur in a memorable battaile put the English Saxons to flight. The name makes strong for him, for although wee now write it Cadbury, noe doubt the Saxons Cathbury for the Saxon th made in this manner is soc like their d distinguished only by a dash athwart the topp that it caused divers mistakes, as for instance when they write fader, moðer, broðer, our ancestors not marking that dash read it fader, moder, broder ; but if this hold currant to be Cathbregion why should it not seeme to support the old tradition by which meanes sometimes truths are preserved to posterity that the same King Arthur's pallace stood at

CAMALLETT CASTLE,

Adjoyning to the latter Cadbury where surely is to be seene a very highe hill comprising on the topp divers acres of ground and on it the expresse footings of a ruinated Castle trenched and fortified, as is also the whole hill with 5 or 6 trenches soe steep and deepe as a man may sooner slide than goe downe at them. But for my part I shall easilie condescend to the worthy Camden, who esteemed it a worke of the Romans and that their coins often times digged up and plowed out here are soc stronge an argument that I shoulde seeke King Arthur's pallace at Cambalam now Camelford in Cornwall where he was after slaine rather than here. As for the name I thinke it tooke it from the River running under it, for Castle Camallett doth seeme to intimate y^e castle at or neare Camellhead, but that you must take as my opinion.

Wee will now leave the hill and looke back on Cadbury which was the possession of a noble Norman family sirnamed de Novo mercato from a Castle of that name in Normandy, who flourished in great wealthe and honour divided into severall families. But this came to an end in James de Novomercato (I write after Howden, for I have seene some write him de Novomercatu) who lived in King Henry the third's time, and left for his heirs two daughters Hawis married to Nicholas de Moeles and Isabell to Rafe Russell. The first of theis was much behoulding to the forenamed King for having helped him to soc great a match confirmed to him in her right the moyetie of the Barony of Newmarch (soe was it then called), and made him

seneschall of the dutchie of Aquitaine where in the yeare of grace 1244 he wone a greate battaile against the King of Navarre. This man was also of the same King's counsell; but I will leave his style and look after his posteritie. He was father of Roger¹; he of John²; he of Nicholas,³ Roger,⁴ and John.⁵ The two first died issulesse, and the last [left] two daughters: Isabell married to William Lord Boutreaux, and Muriel to Sir Thomas de Courtney fourth sonne to Hughe Earle of Devon. But in this division Cadbury and much other lands in theis Parts fell to the Lord Botreaux, who with his wife founded and endowed here a pritty Collegiate Church or rather if you will a quarter Collegiate Church consisting of a Rector seaven Chaplaines and foure Clarkes. In this church they both lye interred under an auncient tombe adjoyning to the High Altar while it stood, where you may see their effigies on the topp, and on the bulke of it amongst other Armes 3 severall Coates borne by this family which I the sooner observed by the way because I know not the reason of it, and should be glad to learne it of some learned in that facultie. The first of them was Cheque or and gules on a cheveron asure 3 silver horshoes; this was borne by William de Botreaux who married Alice daughter and coheire of Robert Corbett, sister unto King Henry the first his sweetheart, by whom he had Reginald Earle of Cornwall, and by that alliance and the munificence of the Earle they injoyed large revenues in those parts. After they assumed Arg. 3 toads sab., I should judge in allusion to their name, for I have seene in an old manuscript book of Blason the elder kings of France to bear D'or a trois botreaux de sab. which were as many toads. Not long after this being laid aside a Griffin segreant gules armed asure in a silver shield was used by them. The cause of theis alterations I leave to those more skilful in heraldry than myselfe to shewe. I fear in pleasing myselfe in this relation I may chance to displease my readers.

I will therefore leave the Armes and returne to the Bearers, who continued in the ranke of Barons eleaven descents all. Williams save two Reginalds. From the last of which of the former name a very fair estate of theis Botreaux as also of Moeles St. Loe and Theweng whose heirs they had married came by match unto Robert Lord Hungerford who being sonne of Catherine daughter and heire of Thomas Peverell by Margaret

¹ Esc. 23 E. 1. ² 3 E. 2. ³ 9 E. 2. ⁴ 17 E. 2. ⁵ 11 E. 3.

his wife heir of Sir Thomas Courtney and Muriell sister of Isabell Botreaux before mentioned united the auncient estate of Moeles and by another match added unto it the possessions of William Lord Mollins, all which by an heire generall divolved on the familie of Hastings sithence honoured with the titles of Earle of Huntingdon being before styled Lord Hastings Botreaux, Molins, and Moeles; and was lately the possession of Sir Francis Hastings a younger branch of that family, who adorned it with a faire beautiful house, and after sold it unto Matthew Ewens one of the Barons of the Exchequer, as a kinsman of his but the other day unto Arthur Ducke doctor of the civill lawes. Theis vicissitudes make good that verse which a very wise man¹ caused to be ingraven on his faire new house :

‘ Nunc mea, mox hujus, sed postea nescio cujus.’

But howsoever he dyed issulesse, and whosoever possesseth this house, y^e university Library in Oxford will continue his memory as long as learning and religion continue.

The next thing here observable are y^e Armes which will be many, as belonging to many families, but take them in their order as neere as I can.

Newmarch : Gules 5 fussels in fesse or.

Moeles : Arg. 2 barrs gules in chief 3 torteaux.

Russell : Arg. on a chief gules 3 plates.

Botreaux : Arg. a griffin segreant gules. For y^e other coates see before.

Courtney : Or 3 torteaux, a bend gobone or and asure.

St. Loe : Arg. a bend sa. a labell gules.

Twinge : Arg. a fesse gules betw. 3 parretts vert.

Hungerford : Sab. 2 barrs arg. in chief 3 plates.

Peverell : Asure 3 garbes or a chief arg.

Mollins : Gules 3 pales indented or ; out of seales.

Hastings : Arg. a maunche sab., a difference.

Ewens : Sab. a fesse betweene two flowerdeluces or.

Ducke : . . .

Cadbury camp is, perhaps, the finest example in the county of an entrenched fort, of which Old Sarum and Maiden Castle are likewise in the first rank. Beside the main camp there are subsidiary forts at Sigwell and Charwell. For a general description, see a paper by the Rev. A. J. Bennett,

¹ Sir T. B.

'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXXVI. ii.; and for barrows opened at Sigwell, articles by General Pitt-Rivers and Professor Rolleston, 'Proc.,' XXIV. ii.

The Romans have left no trace of their civilization except an occasional coin. King Arthur is for ever connected with Cadbury or Camalet; and who would wish to drive away his memory? Let history fade into tradition, and its value of a different kind will still be precious.

The family of Newmarche have been dealt with under Horsington. The last Nicholas de Moels left two sons, Roger and John. The first died issueless in 1326, and his brother John left two daughters, Isabel, wife of William Lord Botreaux, and Muriel, wife of Sir Thomas de Courtney.

Isabel and her husband died on the 19th and 22nd July, 1349, respectively, leaving a son and heir, William. He died in 1391, leaving a widow, Elizabeth, who survived until 1433, and she was the foundress of the quarter collegiate church at North Cadbury. Her son, William, died in her lifetime, 1395, his wife, Elizabeth S. Loc, having predeceased him in 1389. From the style of armour and dress of the figures on the monument in the church, it is most probable that it was erected by the widowed mother after their death. The illustration given in Mr. Roger's 'Strife of the Roses,' p. 147, reproduced in 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' VI. 289, represents two youthful faces. It is a thousand pities that Gerard had not set down the other arms then on the tomb, by means of which the point might have been cleared up. The removal of the tomb from its rightful position to the seclusion of the tower has completely destroyed the heraldry.

Matthew Ewens, Baron of the Exchequer, was buried at North Cadbury in 1598. His great nephew, Matthew, was also buried there in 1629; and it was apparently after his death that Arthur Ducke purchased it. There is an account of Ducke, his family and troubles, in 'Somerset Sequestrations,' Pt. II., 'Proc.,' XVI. ii. 21. The doctor died in 1649, so that Gerard's reference to the death without children must refer to Sir Francis Hastings.

SPARKFORD.

Is the next place this rill leades us unto of low esteeme now, but heretofore more respected for that it gave name to the auncient possessors of it. For I have found mention of Hamo de Sparkford owner of this place in King John's time¹ who married with Christian neice and coheire to one Renfride, and by her had Gervaies de Sparkford² a knight in the beginning of Henry the third's time as the Leiger book of Bruton plainly shows.

Soone after by what meanes I know not it was the possession of Robert Lord Burnell who left it to his younger sonne Robert³ the magnificent Bishopp of Bath and Wells first Lord Treasurer and after Lord Chancellor of Englande under Kinge

¹ plita. 3 Johis.

² plita. 15 Johis.

³ Inq. p. m. ejusdem Epi. 21 E. 1.

Edward the first; who though he expended much in stately buildings, yet left this place and a goodly estate besides unto Phillipp¹ sonne of Hugh Lord Burnell his Brother who survived him. Not long neither did his family continue, any longer than his grandchild whose only daughter Matilda left with other lands Sparkford unto John Lovell her first husband's sonne, from whom the Lovells Barons of Tichmarch issued. Theis, that I may note soe much by the way, were anciently of Minster Lovell in Oxfordshire which they held of the Lord Bassett, and therefore bare his Arms of [Barry] undy or and gules adding a canton ermine for a difference which canton is sithence wrongfully left off, for I have seene in the Armes of John Lovell who was ward to Allane Bassett the two and twentieth of King Henry the third the same Canton, and soe likewise in the seale of John Lovell affixed to a deed dated at this place the fiftith of Edward the third; but this by the way to show them their error who leaving out this Canton invest them in Bassett's own armes without any difference, when indeed they were taken but in allusion to their Lords of whom they held in fee as I have already noted, which custom was most usual in those times. One of this house in Henry the sixth time sold Sparkford unto y^e Rogers of Dorsett and they still enjoy it.

Sparkford: . . .

Burnell: Arg. a lion ramp. sa. crowned or, a border asure.

Lovell: [Barry] undy or and gules, a canton ermine.

Rogers: Arg. on a chief or a flowerdeluce gules.

Hence not farr off lies

SUTTON MOUNTAGUE.

The first name taken from the southe situation; the next from the Lords, it being the inheritance of the noble family of Mountacute Earles of Sarum, from whom lineally descended Robert de Mountacute a younger son owner to this place, who according to the laudable customs of those times added for a difference unto his paternall coat, being arg. 3 fussels in fesse gules, three black pellets two and one or as wee call them ogresses which is to be seene at this daye in Sutton church. The cheife residence of this family was at Sloe Court in the

¹ Esc. 22 E. 1.

parish of West Camell not farr off, which well brookes the name, for in the winter time the very house stands as it were in a slough or myer. Neverthelesse here flourished after Robert de Montacute, his sonne William, his grandchild, his greate grandchild, who left only three daughters his heires; Joane¹ married to John Beavin of Lufton in this County, Emma to John Duport of Leicestershire, and Joane to John Mollins of Hampshire; whose issue not long since enjoyed theis lands. [See paper in the 9th Report of the Wincanton Field Club.]

Adjoyning to this Sutton is Crawthorne in the same parish of very little respect now a daies yet many yeares sithence it gave both name and habitation to the then owners of it. Of which Sir Richard de Crawthorne,² knight flourished in the beginning of King John's time; and unto another Richard de Crawthorne³ Galfride de Dynham then Lord of Corton granted certaine lands in Corton (a neighbour parish) in King Henry the third's time, and Thomas Apadam soone after Lord of that place confirmed the same unto Matthew de Crawthorne his successor whose inheritance soon passed by female heires unto Nicholas Bush and Richard Milborne; the posterity of which Richard remaine unto this day dwelling in Shropshire.

Montacute: Arg. 3 fussels in fess gules betw. 3 ogresses.

Beavin: Arg. a cheveron betw. 3 martlets gules, a chief checquy or and gules.

Duport: . . .

Mollins: Or a cross sarcell, in a chief 3 griffins heads erased sab.

Bush: Ermine, on a chief embattled gu. 3 leopards heads or.

Milborne: Arg. a cross molin sab. pierced.

But to returne to the River from which I have not farr digressed at our meeting with it, it meets with another increase of water that comes from

BRATTON.

A place more eminent for the highe situation than any other respect. Heretofore it was written Brockton and from the brooke issuing thence took that name which it imparted also to the ancient owners of it of which I have found mention in the

¹ Eleanor, p. 96. ² Plita. 3 Johis. ³ cart. antiq. in custod. propria.

Register of Bruton of Jordan de Brockton and Mawde his wife who were both buried in that Prioury, and that they might be had in perpetual memory, their son Gerard de Brockton gave lands with the church of Brokton unto the Priour of that place. The last named left only two daughters: Olive who not only confirmed her father's munificence but added unto it of her own, as by her charter dated the 22 of H. 3. recorded in y^e forequoted book appears; and Sibell who with her husband Robert de Bagadrape¹ confirmed the other former donation.

After this place became the possession of y^e St. Maures Lords of Castle Cary and from them descended to the Lords Zouches a younger branche of which family not long since parted with it, now by purchase the Byflettes have seated themselves here, of very ancient gentry I assure you who have flourished many ages in Hampshire and deduce their descent from an heire generall of Basing a potent man in his time and Lord of Basing in those parts, of whose lands some are still in their possession.

Brocton:

St. Maure: Arg. 2 cheverons gules, a labell asure.

Zouche: Gules 10 besants, a quarter ermine.

Byflett: Asure 2 swords in saltier arg. hilted or betw. 4 flowerdeluces or.

This place should rightly have come in the valley of the Cale, the village with the greater part of the parish being on the northern side of Bratton Hill, from which point there is a magnificent view.

It appears by a Final Concord of 20 Hen. III., No. 180, that Gerard de Bratton left a third daughter, Sarah, wife of Stephen Michael. Although the charter of the gift of patronage to the Canons of Bruton is entered in their chartulary, No. 96, it was voided, and the patronage and the greater part of the manor returned to the Lovel family as over-lords, and so descended to Zouche. After Bosworth that family lost (*inter alia*) the manors of Bratton and Lynde—i.e. Bratton Lynes, a submerged manor—and they were granted to William Willoughby. After a time they were restored, and the family of Zouche dragged out a poverty-stricken existence in the midst of the estates passed away for ever. At length, on the death of Edward eleventh Lord Zouche, in 1621, who had played the part of court-fool to James I. (Disraeli, 'Curiosities of Literature: James I.'), the title fell into abeyance for more than two centuries.

This brooke comes immediately to

¹ Bawdrip in this county.

YERLINGTON.

A member anciently of the Barony of Shepton Montacute which the elder Earles of Sarum and their posterity long enjoyed. Sithence Sir Henry Berkeley of Bruton having purchased it, adorned it with a handsome house, and left it to his second sonne Sir Henry Berkeley now owner of it. I remember I have seene in this church the armes of Montacute. ['History of Yarlinton,' by T. E. Rogers, 1890.]

Montacute : Arg. 3 fessells in fess gules.

Berkley : Gules a cheveron erm. betw. 10 crosses paty arg., a double difference of cressants.

This rill having joyned with the other River they hold on a joynt course into

CAMELL.

Which as before I said I am persuaded takes that name from the River. More anciently it was for a distinction from a place of the same name according to the situation written East Camell and Kings Camell. Whose then it was, the following Inquisition will show you.¹

Juratores dicunt &c. quod dominus Johannes de Burgo senior feofavit dom. Simonem de la Mote de pl. [?parcella] terr' in Camell Reg., sed quando feofavit dictum Simonem fuit Johannes de Burgo junior in seisinā dicti Manerii unde dictus Johannes senior aliquem ltime [?legitime] feofare non potuit. Dicunt etiam quod dictum manerium fuit aliquando antiqu. dominiū domini Regis per mortem Willielmi Comitis de Romara² qui obiit sine herede unde dictum manerium fuit escaetum domini Johannis Regis Anglie, et postea dominus Rex Anglie dedit manerium predictum dño Huberto³ de Burgo patris domini Johis. de Burgo senioris.

Camell upon y^e death of y^e younger John de Burgo without issue male the second time escheated the Crowne and was not long after granted otherwise than as part of the Quēenes joynture

¹ Inq. capt. 3 E. 1.

² This man gave y^e rectory of Camell unto y^e Abbey of Cleeve in this County of his kinsman's foundation.

³ Earle of Kent tpe. 11. 3.

of this land ; whence it gott the nowe name Queene Camell, or els unto y^e neerest allies of the Crowne untill Queen Mary, much favouring Sir Walter Mildmay, conferred and by letters patents confirmed it to him and his heirs who untill this day enjoy it.¹

That Camell was anciently a Barony the Inquisition² taken after the death of Edmund Earle of Kent then owner of it plainly shoves, for here were held of it then above 13 knights fees and a third part, which a great Antiquary³ nowe living shoves was an entire Barony and the owner of such lands a Baron.

That it had a little east of the Church a Mannor or Court house (as wee call them in theis parts) tradition tells us, which the footings in some places appearing, and the foundations in more digged out, seeme to affirme. This was accomodated with two parkes, the one not farr from the house retayning yet the name of Camell parke, the other at Haselgrove.

Within this parish, neare the place where this Court stood you may see a faire Country Church having at the west end a bell tower of a greate height furnished with a very good ring of 5 bells, to which a sixth in the yeare of grace 1633 was added by William Perry a parishioner. In my opinion such a guift to y^e Church deserves remembrance howsoever given.

De Burgo : Gules 7 masculcs vaire 3. 3. and 1.

Mildmay : Arg. 3 lions ramp. guardant asure.

But I had almost forgotten to tell you that this place gave the sirname of Camell unto a family of good note who also enjoyèd lands here.⁴ I have found frequent mention of theis in evidences from Edward the second's time untill King Henry the fifth's time and after, for then Robert Camell⁵ married with Joan Plecy of Shapwick Plecy in Dorsett whither John⁶ their son removed, for beforetime I am persuaded they resided at Sherborne because I have seene in an ancient house there still remaineing in the windowes of it, not only the Armes of Camell being Sable a camel arg., taken as best suteing to his name, but also of Plecy, Arg. 6 annulets gules 3. 2. and 1., And of Malmaines of Upwinborne, Arg. 3 left hands coupèd gules, whose heire was married to Plecy many ages before.

The manor seems to have had a traditional tendency for a lady owner, as it was possessed by Ghida, the widow of Earl Godwin, before the Conquest.

¹ Pat., 5 et. 6 Phil. et. Marie.

⁴ Inq. de quo ad. damn. 34 E. 3.

² Inq. 4 E. 3.

³ Esc. 4 H. 5.

⁵ Mr. Selden.

⁶ Ibid. 29 H. 6.

For Romara, see Cleeve Abbey, *ante*. It is still owned by the descendants of Sir Walter Mildmay. It is recorded of him that he was greatly favoured by Queen Mary, who certainly expected the same theological views in her entourage, yet in the succeeding reign he founded at Cambridge Emmanuel College, which was the favourite resort of the Puritans.

The park at Hazelgrove is remarkable for a grove of gigantic oaks, one of which is 32 feet in girth.

The church is very fine: the mention of the date on the bell is a valuable testimony to the date of the Survey. The inscription is given by Ellacombe, No. 6: 'Here I am you may see William Pirri and his wife gave me to this church free to be mayntayned for ever 1633.' Diameter, 59 inches.

The family of Camel seem to have spread far and wide in this district. In the church of St. John, Glastonbury, there is a tomb 'with divers representations of camels'; and in Barwick church a bench end bears a shield of six quarters imp. quarterly 6 roundels and 3 camels, not very unlike Plecy and Camel.

At this place falls into the River-a brooke from

WESTON BAMPFEILD.

The auncient inheritance of y^e worthy and respective family of Bampfield, now residing at Poltimore in Devon, descended from that John de Bampfield who as Edward the seconds survey¹ tells mee was then owner of it. Theis having much increased their estate by divers heirs generall, especially those of Poltimore Pederton Tourny, and St. Maure descended from an heire of the Lord Lovell, flourish in greate esteeme and continue Lords of this place untill this day, where a younger branche of them now resides.

Bampfield: Or on a bend gules 3 mulletts pierced arg.

Poltimore: Or a cross engrailed gu. a bendlet gobony arg. and asure.

Pederton: Arg. a bend gules betw. 3 lions heads crased sab.

Tournay: Arg. a fesse sa.

St. Maure: Arg. 2 cheverons gules, a labell asure.

Lovell: Or cruselee, a lion ramp. asure.

The 'younger' branch is most probably Amias Bampfield of W. B., gent., whose will, made in 1648, was proved September 22, 1656, by his son Amyas (Brown, I. 11). In it he mentions his brother John B. of Poltimore, and his nephew Sir John B.

¹ Nom. Villar. 9 E. 2.

WEST CAMMELL.

In elder records Cammell dounhead because there begins that downe or hill which reaching as farr as both Cammells by reason it stands in a flatt country yeilds a goodly prospect to such as passe that way, and from which some have folishly imagined the places tooke name, the hill (in their fantasie but none else) resembling the bunch on a camell's back. For myne owne parte I will leave them to their conceipts, and returne to West Cammell, which long before the Normans' coming acknowledged for Lords the Abbotts of Muchelney and continued theirs until such houses under Henry the eight came to a period. After the Duke of Somersett became owner of it as his heire the Earle of Hertford is at this day.

As for Sloe Court in this parish heretofore a seate of the Montacutes, I have already spoken of it, and y^e Mannor house lately new built by one of the Kirtons seeing it is alienated I will passe over in silence.

In the chartulary of Muchelney Abbey there is charter by King Ethelred of evil memory confirming the gift of Abbot Leofric to the Abbey of certain lands at that place which the dwellers call in a joking way 'at Cantmæl.' The point of the joke is not now apparent, but as the writer of the chartulary rubricates the charter as Cammel, it was evidently looked upon as the title deed. A colotype of the charter forms the frontispiece to S.R.S., Vol. XIV.

Downhead is a hamlet on the western slope of Camel hill; it was held of the Abbey by military service in 1166 by Richard Rivel and Margaret Tabuel. The Abbey eventually got a much closer grip on the land.

Slow Court is also given by Collinson as the home of a branch of the Montacute family, but see paper in the 9th Report of the Wincanton Field Club.

This river neere the confluence with Ivell takes into it guestwise another rill which issueth forth neere

CORTON DYNHAM.

Soe called for that it was anciently the possession of the noble family of Dynham,¹ who deduced their descent from the Earles of Little Brittain in France, and having married with an heire of Dynham assumed both the name and armes of that family vizt. in a field gules 4 fussels in fesse ermine. Galfride de

¹ Vide apud Buckland Dinham, p. [in portion missing].

Dynham many ages sithence aliened it unto Peter de Hillario a Norman who was noe sooner possessed of it almost; but King John sent forth the Inquisition¹ De Terris Normannorum and laid such claims unto it that Peter was forced to compound with King Henry the third his sonne. The composition out of the originall which with many other ancient charters and deeds of that Mannor remaine in my custody I have thought worthy the transcribing. It follows in theis words :

Petrus de Hillario et Gunnora uxor ejus finem fecerunt cū dñō Rege pro quatuor viginti marcis pro habenda terra sua de Corstun unde inuenierunt dñō Regi tales plegias scilicet : Will. Com. Ferrers de 10 marc., W. com. Sarum de 10 marc., G. com. Glouc. de 10 marc., Robert de Gam de 10 marc. ; Johannes Mar. (credo marescallus) de 5 marc., Will. de Nerland de 10 marc., Robert de Anguilan de 5 marc., Rich. de Hereford de 5 marc. ; Et mandatum est Petro de Maulea quod de predict' terr' cum pertinent' plenam seisinam eis sine dilatione habere faciat, et conceditur finis iste predicto Petro de Malo Lacu ad castrum de Corfe sustentand' per Justiciar' et epūm Winton et Will. Brewin.²

This composition however strictly soever bound was of small effect for the same King whether for not payment of the fine or for what other cause I knowe not, seised it into his hands and by his charter dated the thirtieth of his raigne granted as y^e words of it are.

Dilecto et fideli nro Hugoni de Wivon totam terram que fuit Henrici de S. Hillario in Corston et que capta fuit in manū nostrā per inquisitionem factam Cum de terris Normanorū habend' et tenend' de Nobis et heredibus nostris eid' Hugoni et heredibus suis vel assignatis suis donec terra nostra Anglie et terra Norman' sint comunes vel eam rediderimus rectis heredibus per voluntatem nostram vel per pacem et si terra nostra Anglie et terra Norman' aliquando fuerunt comunes vel terram illam rediderimus rectis heredibus per voluntatem vel per pacem ipsum Hugonem vel heredes aut assignatos suos inde non disseisimus vel dissisire faciemus donec ei vel hered' aut assignatis suis escambium fecerimus de aliis terris nostris ad valentiam predict' terr' faciend' inde nobis et hered' nostris servitium inde debit' Quare volumus &c. Hiis testibus Johē de Plessett, Paulino Priver, Roberto de Musegros, Barth. Peche, Ricō de Clifford, Ricō de Alenzum, Willō de Sinagun, Radō

¹ Inq. 6 John.

² Somerset.

de Waucy, Johē de Gere, et aliis. Dat. per manū nostrā apud Wives. xvij die Septembr. Anno regni Regis Henrici filii Regis Johis. 30^{mo}.

In the next king's reign Corton became the possession of Ancelinus de Gournay¹ who had it together with Sibell his wife daughter of the aforesaid Hugh de Wivon (as it was then called) in frank marriage; and his grandchild and heire Elizabeth brought it and other faire lands unto her husband Sir John Apadam, whose sonn Sir Thomas Apadam² dying issulesse, convayed the most of Gournay's estate upon Sir Thomas de Gournay heire male of that family, but Corton unto Sir John d'Inge a judge in those times whose daughter he had formerly married, from whose heire generall by the Storkes it devolved on y^e Comptons late owners of it.

As for Witcombe seated in the bottom not farr from hence it seems to have bin the Mannor house and belonged unto the several owners untill Storke's time when how justly I knowe not, the Gilberts became owners of it, a family that begun to flourish, but on a suddaine was eclipsed.

Dynham: Gules 4 fussels in fesse ermine.

St. Hillary: . . .

Wivon: Arg. a chief gules.

Gourney: Paley of six or and asure, a labell gules.

Apadam: Arg. on a cross gules 5 mullets of 6 points or.

I have of this divers seales of Edward the second and y^e beginning of Edward the third's time, and to many of them for a crest, a plume of feathers.

Inge: Arg. a cheveron betw. 3 eglets sa. I have seene many seales of it.

Storke: Asure a storke proper within a border ermine.

Compton: Sa. 3 helmets within a border arg.

Gilbert: Arg. a cheveron ermine betw. 3 moores heads couped sa.

FUSIL

Collinson has confused Corton Dynham with Corston near Bath. As the first-named was originally Corfeton, the resemblance between the two is very trying.

The manor and advowson of Corston belonged to Bath Abbey; the advowson of Corton to the Dynham family down to 1489. During the sixteenth century it was in the hands of the Crown; in 1607, to William Lord Compton and Mr. Gilbert jointly; in 1660 and since, to Portman.

¹ Esc. 27 E. 2.

² Inter fines de anno 4 E. 3.

Dynham had alienated the manor to Peter de Hillary before King John's 'Inquisitio de terris Normannorum,' 1204-5. The title and the possession having been bandied about a good deal, Geoffrey de Dynham seems to have tried to recover it from Henry Peter's heir. He failed to do this, with the exception of the advowson, which was declared to be his, and the family were patrons for a long period (Ped. Fin., 23 Hen. III., No. 34). The manor did not long remain with the victorious Henry, for by the grant given in the text in 1246, it was granted to Hugh de Vivonia. In Kirby's Quest, Corton and Sandford are held by Anselm de Gournay of Oliver de Dynham. The terms of a Final Concord, 14 Edw. III., No. 33, show that Sir John Inge was then the owner with remainder to Apadam. Collinson (under Corston) gives the pedigree of Inge down to 1486, when Corton was settled on Roger Norman, with remainder to John Storke and his heirs.

Temp. Domesday, Witcombe was a separate holding. The pedigree of Gilbert of Whitcombe, given in the Visitation of 1591, begins in the reign of Edward II. Leland noted that 'Mr. Gilbert a gentleman hath a poore mansion place by south east of the very rootes of Camalet.' There is a personal tone at the close of Gerard's statement which suggests that Gilbert had acquired Witcombe from Stork (the author's ancestor) in an underhand way, and that the children were paying for their ancestor's misdeeds.

From Corton this brooke for it is nowe no better comes to

SANDFORD.

In old evidences Sandford Orskeys, but why soe called I assure you I knowe not. It was owned by Bartholomew Paine in Edward the second's time as his Survay¹ tells me whose posterity enjoyed it untill Henry the sixth's time when Walter Paine by Elizabeth his wife daughter and coheire unto Robert Rempstone left Jone his heire who with other possessions brought a moyetie of this Sandford unto her husband Thomas Knoyle² in whose name and kindred it continues unto this day, being now the cheife seate of that family.

About the same time I meane H. 6. John Jerrard³ branched from a very ancient family in Dorset seated himselfe on the other moyetie of Sandford where his posterity flourish untill this present. The name I have written as y^e office informed mee, but give me leave to believe they were issued from that Gerard⁴ who held lands near Netherburie in Dorsett in y^e Conqueror's time, which by an heire generall after came unto y^e Strodes of theis parts.

¹ Nom. Villar. 9 E. 2.

² Ibid. 6 H. 6.

³ Esc. 20 E. 4.

⁴ Liber Domesday.

Paine : Sa. 3 lozenges arg. 2 and 1.

Knogle : Gules on a bend arg. 3 scollopss sa.

Gerard : Arg. a cheveron gules betw. 3 ermines.

Gerard's ignorance of the suffix is very surprising. Orces is a variation of Orescuilz, the name of a family who held this and other manors in Somerset and Dorset as representatives of the Domesday owner, Humphrey the Chamberlain. On the death of Richard de Orescuilz, temp. John, the property was divided between his sisters, Maud, the wife of William Fitzjohn of Harptree, and Alice de Viliers, mother of Roger de Viliers : see the lawsuit in Som. Pleas., No. 1384, and 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLV. ii. 64. Maud Fitzjohn's second son, William, was owner in Kirby's Quest. Bartholomew Paine appears as owner 1317-50.

I have not been able to find any reference to Vilier's moiety from 1249 to 1423, when — Jerard gives in trust half the manor of Sandford by a deed dated at that place 20 Jan. 9 Hen. V. (Visit. 1623, Harl. Soc., Vol. XI. p. 63). From 1413 to 1661 Jerard and Knogle are patrons. The Tudor manor house of the Knogles is still standing close to the church. Gerard's suggestion that Jerard came from Netherbury, and merged into the Strodes, duly appears in 'Coker's' Survey.

The brooke from hence hasteth through y^e two Merstons notable for riche groundes (but for nothing else) to joyne with Ivell, which immediately visiteth

IVELCHESTER.

Where you see in part the Carkesse of an auncient Citty that flourished in y^e Brittaines Saxons Romans Danes and Normans times, and now (such is the fate of places as well as families) almost wholly decayed.

Ptolomeus called it Ischalis it tooke y^e name from any, but the Brittaines were to look in vaine and as vaine I thinke it were to form it of their two words Ischall a thistle and Lee a place as the place of thistles, though the richness of the ground producing those weedes in great abundance may seeme to connive at such a conceipt. With more probability I thinke wee may drawe it from y^e Brittish word Isa (belowe) and soe reading it Isalis instead of Ischalis they would tell you it intimated as much as a low seate, which Etimologie the scituation brookes soe well that I will seeke no other for it.

Ninnius in his Catalogue, saies Camden,¹ calls it Pontavell Coite for Pont-ivell Coite, that is Ivell bridge in the wood.

During the time of the Romans it seems to have flourished,

¹ Camden Belge.

for very many of their coins and meydalls have bin and almost daylie yet are digged up, of which I have receaved some from my good friend Mr. Dawe, who dwells there, and hath seene them taken out of foundations betweene the stones whereof the feilds adjoyning are full especially towards the East and South. Theis coins some were of Constantine¹ y^e Emperor called y^e Greate, and faire meydalls of most pure copper of Constantius his third sonne, who with his brethren divided the Empire, as also of his second wife the lovely Faustina, and of others.

The Saxons called this place Ivelchester that is the City upon Ivell for soe Chester signifies in their language. At the comeing of the Normannis it was well peopled and much frequented for reckoned there were in it as saithe Doomsday Booke 107 Burgesses; then was it also well fenced with a wall, in some places double-walled, as the Rivers show which made them the better able to resist the warlike Robert de Mowbray who combineing with other nobles of the kingdome to suppress King William Rufus, and sett up his elder brother Robert Duke of Normandy in his roome in the yeare of our salvation 1088 brent y^e Citty of Bathe and immediately marching thither with the same purpose found such a reception from y^e citizens that he was forced to raise his siege with shame; neither did those seditious Barons who tumultuously raised warr against their lawfull Prince King John speed any better at this place, for after those of that faction had againe and againe assaulted it, they departed with lost labour. Which repulse to his enemies the king tooke soe graciously that he granted unto them new priviledges and confirmed the charter of King Henry the second (which is the oldest that I have seene) of their corporation, in memory of which I thinke it is that they give in their common seale a Cressant and a Starr both which the same King used in his greate seale.

In theis times Ivelchester was soe populous that they were numbered in ten parish churches or upwards besides the Prioury and other Chappells, and enjoyed large territories but much straytened by their good patron King John (as soone you shall heare), for in his troublesome raigne, Citties to possess too many lands, or Bishoppes castles, was taken for such an offence as oftimes he would seize them into his owne hands.

¹ He began his raigne in the year of Christ 307, and his 3 sons Constantius here mentioned, Constans and Constantinus in the yeare 337 divided the Empire.

But what assaults and warre could not doe unto this towne, time, in a short time, having procured the assistance of pestilence and fire, to destroy by the first the dwellers, by the second the dwellings, soone effected, for in the raigne of King Edward the first who was grandchild to John, they were soe much fallen as forced to petition him for y^e abatement of their fee farme producing for motives in their petition out of which theis following words were taken.

. . . And that whereas the same King¹ gave a parcell of the towne unto one William Denneis² in exchange for the park of North Petherton and tooke in his owne hands the Hundred of Stone which formerly belonged to this place, As also for that it was much wasted by casuall fires, and y^e people by a greate plague, he would be pleased &c.

Which motives moved the King soe that he remitted part of their fee-farme and confirmed their priviledges as divers succeeding princes did. From this time Iwelchester decayed soe fast, that, as I said at the first, here remains only the carkasse of it; theis manie parish churches being all perished save one and that I believe of the lesser skull [?] whose parson notwithstanding is even untill this daye instituted unto foure or five churches more.

At this place for the most times were the assizes for the County kept; now are they content with a Common gaol, the County Courts, and one of the Quarter Sessions. Their priviledges of sending Burgesses to y^e Parliament was long lost, but is of late againe renewed. They enjoy a weekly markt on y^e Wednesday; and are governed by a Bayley, having two constables for his assistance.

I must confesse that little remnant which is left of soe greate a place is of late beautified in manie places with good buildings which they may doe good cheape, seeing in every garden orchard or ground adjoyning they digg out foundations of excellent stone ready wrought.

Imagen the former glory of this place, and seeing it nowe putt me in mind of certaine verses which a moderne writer³ taking upon trust applied very aptly to another place,⁴ and by the same priviledge will with some alterations to this.

¹ John.

² Weaver, p. 4.

³ in y^e deed Willielmo Daco.

⁴ Verulam.

Stay thy foot that passest by
 Here is wonder to descry
 Churches that interr'd y^e dead
 Heer themselves lye buried.
 Houses where men slept and waked
 Here in ashes under raked
 Scarce find rest. If more you'll have
 Here's a Citty in a grave.
 Reader wonder thinke it then
 Citties thus should dye like men.
 And yet wonder think it none
 Many Citties soe have done.

This place when it flourished I presume had many religious houses in and about it. After it decayed (untill the decay of such places) it had two one neere the bridge which I assure you is fairly built having on the one side a house soe large as untill of late time it served for the Countie Goale; on the other a pritty Chapell built heretofore for the prisoners to heare prayers (having but the breadth of the bridge betweene the Goale and it). Neere this as I said stood a small Monastery for Nuns called Whithall in lattin records Alba Aula. Of whose foundation I assure you I knowe not neither is it in the catalogue of Religious houses; and the Fryery now seated in the south end of the towne heretofore neere the midst they escaped in that catalogue also, by means whereof the founder is lost for ought I could ever find. The cause I presume was their poverty being but mendicant or begging fryers who lived only upon almes, having neither to have more lands than inclosed within their walls yet had they a goodly faire church whose bell-tower rising in the midst as tradition tells was of that exceeding height that it was seene many miles off; but this is all ruined except one Crosse Ile which now makes a large barne in it. I have seene many monuments of the dead in it, but soe defaced as not to be knowne whose they were. In the place of this Priory stands now a new house, the seate of my good friend Mr. Dawe who, when the house was building found under the ground a spacious vault all of Ashler stone from Hamden hill being ten feet highe and eight feet broad of which he tooke up many yards useing the stones for pavements of his house leaving the reste for a sincke, but how farr it reached none were soe hardy to search neither can any conceave the use of it, only some are of opinion that it might be a conveyance for y^e water when the River overflowed, but that I knowe not.

Opposite to the one end of this Prioury (which I remember for imitation sake) stands an Almshouse for poore people built in Henry the 6. time by one Veale a gent in these parts and endowed by him with the mannor of Stocklinche which they still enjoy. Towards the other end stands Torrell's Court soe called for that it was a house of the Torrells men of eminent note in foregoing times of which family came Aumery Torrell celebrated by y^e ancient historians for that he followed King Richard the first in his warres against the Infidels and was a witness to the charter of peace and confederacy made at the City of Messina betweene the same king and Tancred King of Sicily. Theis flourished until Edward the thirds time and were owners also of Torrells Preston nere Milverton in this County, where one of them built and endowed a Chauntry as there you may find more at large.

I have done with the towne, only give me leave ere wee part to take notice of some places seated as it were suburbs unto it ; which are

SOCKE DENEIES.

Called now Socke and Bealy which as but even now I told you King John having wrested out of y^e Citizens exchanged it with William the Dane¹ for y^e parke of Petherton.² He by Agnes his wife left issue William le Deneis father of Brice (for soe I translate Bricius) and John originall of y^e family of Deneis which still flourish at Holcombe in Devon. The elder brother Brice dyed in Edward the firsts time, and left but one daughter married to Punchardon of Lydiard by whom shee had Hawys first married to Thomas de Pine, after (being then childlesse) to Sir Nicholas de Bonvile, whose sonne of the same name and title, in his mother's right, enjoyed Lydiard Punchardon and this Socke, and left the name of Bonviles Court to their Mansion House. Of these see more if you please at Chewton where you may know how they lost it.

As well worthy remembrance is

BROOKE.

Seated on and named from a Brooke which cometh down from Montacute to joyne itself to Ivell ; in respect it gave both

¹ Will. Dacus, cart. Villa de Ivelchester.

² Esc. 33 H. 3.

name and habitation to an ancient and noble family written in old evidences sometimes Atbrooke, more often de la Brooke, now Brooke. Theis flourished in knights degree from before the date of ancient evidence untill Sir Thomas Brooke by Jone his wife daughter and heire of Reinold Braybrooke and Jone de la Poole, whose mother was the sole inheritrix of John last Lord Cobham of Cobham in Kent obtaining the title of Baron Cobham removed into theis parts where his posterity flourished in greate honour untill of late years disaster fell on y^e principall house. Howsoever from y^e first Lord Cobham of this race are issued very manie worthy families transplanted into divers Counties which flourish at this day. But this Brooke when her Lords removed their residence fell to ruine soe much as now it hardly shoves the ruines of a house.

Torrell : Arg. a bull passant gules, horned or.

Dencis : Erm. 3 dane axes gules.

Punchardon : Sa. 10 bezants arg. 4. 3. 2. 1.

Pyne : . . .

Bonville : Sa. 6 mulletts arg. 3. 2. 1.

Brooke : Gules on a cheveron arg. a Lyon ramp. sa.

Braybrooke : Arg. 7 mascles 3. 3. 1.

De la Poole : Asure a fesse betw. 3 leopards heads or, a cressant.

Cobham : Gules on a cheveron or 3 lions ramp. sa.

Daw : Arg. on a pile gules a cheveron betw. 3 crosses crosslet arg.

The decay of this ancient town seems to have struck every one who passed through it. Leland notes of it that in his time it was 'in wonderful decay, as a thing in a maner rasid with men of warre.' In addition to plague and fire, which were common enemies to all towns, I imagine that its position, in a very flat vale liable to floods, must have put a stop to all through traffic in the winter months ; so the east and west trade would be diverted through Sherborne and Yeovil, and that from north to south through Langport.

The one church still standing, having swallowed up all the others without being appreciably richer for the process, has Roman bricks worked up in the tower and elsewhere.

The fortunes of Whitehall have been traced by the Rev. T. Hugo ('Som. Arch. Proc.,' XIII. ii. 21). It was founded within the period 1217-20 by William Dacus as a Free Hospital. By 1280 it had become a Nunnery, which provided endless trouble to the Bishop and other authorities, and scandal for the gossips of the town, for two hundred years. In the middle of the fifteenth century it was turned into a Free Chapel, and so remained until the Dissolution. The Friary is often mentioned in Wills, &c., but its

history has yet to be written. It is amusing to see that Gerard's age found the usual underground passage so inseparably connected with all old ruins in the popular mind.

The late Mr. Buckler printed the Titled deeds of the Almshouses at Ilchester in a valuable little book. The manor is Stocklinch Magdalen near Ilminster.

For Brooke of Brooke, and the ramifications of this family, see papers by Mr. W. H. H. Rogers in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' Vols. XLIV.-XLVI. Henry Brooke, K.G., tenth Baron Cobham, having the misfortune to be the friend of Sir Walter Raleigh, suffered fifteen years imprisonment in the Tower, and died in 1619 without title, honour, or lands.

From Ivelchester the River passeth under Pillbridge, whither are brought upp boates and crayes from Lamport and Bridgewater, through an even flatt of very fertile ground called Kingesmore which as Kingsdowne adjoyning I suppose to that name as appertayning to the West Saxon Kings house seated neare Somerton. On the one side of this moore lyes

LOADE.

Named soe from the passage of waters there, which now hath the conveniency of a bridge; lade and load signifying y^e same.

The gradual silting up of the bed of the Yeo, which had brought the limits of navigation down from Ilchester to Pillbridge, led it thence to Long Load. Here, until the opening of the Durston-Yeovil line, there was a considerable trade in coal, &c., and remains of the wharves and warehouses may yet be seen.

On the other side of the moore on the rising stands

LONG SUTTON.

A faire and fruitful mannor scene farr off, especially the Church and tower being faire and highe. King Alfred gave this place unto the Abbey of Athelney of his foundation as his charter there specified will show; neither left they it untill Abbies were left. Since it hath suffered divers changes which will be needless to write. Here an ancient record¹ tells mee was then the dwelling of Robert de Somerton whose ancestors took that name from the neighbouring towne Somerton and held lands here of the Abbott of Athelney and divers other Lords. He left for his heir Peter, the son of Rafe de Ivelton by

¹ Esc. 24 E. 3.

Cicily his wife onlie heir of the said Robert de Somerton, and remarried (as some skilfull in pedigrees will) unto a Stawell. Neither may I overpasse that mannor here called Bournes mannor;¹ was heretofore and of late yeares the seate and possession of the Bournes.

Somerton : Arg. a cheveron gules betw. 3 braunches vert.

Ivelton : Sa. 2 barrs undy arg.

Bourne : Arg. a cheveron gules betw. 3 lyons ramp. sa. a chief ermine.

This place well brooks its name, the longer axis of the parish being four miles and one quarter. The church was consecrated after rebuilding in 1490. From this tower may be seen a group of towers at Hewish, Langport, Curry Rivel, Muchelney, Kingsbury Episcopi, and Martock, which it would be hard for any other part of the country, I will not say to overpass, but even to match.

The river passing on its way to meet with Parrett at Langport helpeth to shape by the Peninsula Muchelney which is already described at Langport, also on the East side of which you may see

HEWIS.

Soe neere joyned as if part of the same ; the name intimates wood the place affords nothing lesse ; neither is it observable for anything save that its an ancient Mannor of the Church of Wells, and shoves to commend it a faire church with a bell tower arising to that height that its scene very farr off.

But of better note is the neighbouring

PITTNEY ANCIENTLY PUTNEY.

Which name it taketh from y^e Saxon Putt which with them signifies soft dirt, and deservedly it had that name, being seated in a very miery country, yet was it in foregoing ages a cheife member of the Barony of Lorty written in old records de Urtiaco who made it by their princes favour a fraunchise. Of theis see more at

CURRY RIVELL.

Seated on a hill over Langport and the next place wee shall come unto. It tooke the addition from the ancient Lords of it ;

¹ Esc. 14 E. 4.

the only heire of which Sabina in Henry the thirds time brought it to her husband Sir Henry Lorty (or de Urtiaco for soe in all ancient records was he written), Lord of Stocke Trister, Cuklington, Putney Lorty, and other goodly inheritances in theis parts, which were then called the Barony of Lorty or de Urtiaco. For in those times, that I may note so much once for all, every man that possessed an entire Barony which consisted of thirteene knights fees and a third part, every knights fee contayning 20 li. lands which make in all 400 marks was accompted a Baron and had place in Parliament untill the time of King Henry the third, who being overpressed with multitude of theis 400 mark Barons not long before his end¹ ordained that only such as were summoned by especial writs should repaire to the Parliament, whereupon those only were esteemed Barons, and those by the discreet carriage of Edward the first were alwaies of the most ancient families and men both of wisdome and understanding who being once summoned to Parliament enjoyed the title of Baron during life, but if their children succeeded them not in their wisdome as well as in their wealth they were not summoned neither enjoyed that title. This is the opinion of the learned Camden almost in his own words, though it be not so well allowed by Mr. Selden who is contrary to the sett number of knights fees for making a Barony, and refers the beginning of Summons rather to King John's time, than Henry the third, but what have I to do with this. Let us returne to Henry Lorty whom I am sure was a Baron, for besides that which his estate might claime, he was often summoned in King Edward the firsts time, and dyed an old man leaving behind him two sonnes Henry and Walter of whom I shall speake ere long. Sir Henry Lorty the eldest enjoyed his father's estate² but not his title, and by Sybill his wife was father of Henry de Urtiaco³ who had John and Hughe that dyed both without issue male, but the first of them left a daughter named Sibilla mother of Elizabeth⁴ married unto John Gunter, whose posterity by this match long after enjoyed Putney Lorty.⁵ But as for this Curry Rivell Stocketrister Cucklington Langport and his other possessions fell to the Crowne, which King Edward the third graunted unto William Montacute Earle of Sarum 'et inde obiit seisitus ut parcella

¹ 48 H. 3.² Esc. 17 E. 2.³ Ibid. 15 E. 3.⁴ 1 H. 2.⁵ Esc. 15 H. 6; 13 E. 4; 2 R. 3.

Baronie de Urtiaco¹ as the words in y^e Inquisition¹ taken after his death are. After, the elder Earles of Arundell, the Earles of Somerset &c. possessed it, and at last left it againe to the Crowne. There is part of an ancient Mannor house still remayning neere the Church now owned by Mr. Jennings, whose principall dwelling is at Burton not farr off a hamlet belonging to this place. As is also

SWELL

The habitation of Walter de Urtiaco² second sonne of Henry but now mentioned by the guift of his mother. This was before the possession of Henry Fitzrichard³ a greate Baron in his time, and by one of his coheires it came to Walter de Aseleghe whose sonne Sir Walter de Asheleighe gave unto the monkes of Brewton this church of Swelle together with some lands there in the yeare of grace 1221 about the beginning of H. 3 time as the Booke in y^e margin tells me. In the same kings raigne dyed Sir Walter de Aseleighe⁴ and left for his heire his sister Mabilla the wife of Sir Richard de Rivillo⁵ mother of Sabina married as I have already saide unto Henry de Urtiaco.

I presume theis Aseleighes tooke the sirname from Ashley mannor⁶ not farr distant though the place I knowe not, because an Inquisition tells me that Henry de Urtiaco besides Swelle and other places held the mannor of Ashley; but its time for me to returne to Walter de Urtiaco as you have heard owner of Swelle which he left to Sir John Lorty his sonne (wonder not at the change of y^e name for I sett them downe out of evidences); he had a second Sir John Lorty and Mawde heire to her brother married to . . . Carterell, but when as Sir John dyed issulesse he gave Swell unto his wife Mawd,⁷ who marrying to her second husband Sir William Newton descended from the Newtons of Suffolk gave it unto William Newton⁸ his sonne by a former wife, from whom the now owner of it is lineally descended.

HAMBRIDGE.

Also is a member of a Curry Rivill worthy the remembrance for that it gave the same sirname unto an ancient family still

¹ 18 E. 3.² 24 E. 1.³ Brewton Regist.⁴ 30 H. 3.⁵ Regist. Brewton.⁶ Inq. capt. 3 E. 2.⁷ 7 H. 5.⁸ 31 H. 6.

remayning in this County. As for Cathanger a parcell of this parish I have already spoken of it.

Rivill : Arg. a cheveron gules, a border engrailed sa.

Lorty (of Curry Rivell) : Asure a cross or.

Lorty (of Swelle) : The same with a martlett gules.

Gunter : Sab. three gauntletts arg. 2. and 1.

Jeninges : Asure a cheveron betw. 3 besantes, on a cheif ermine 3 cinquefoils gu.

Fitzrichard : Barrule¹ or and gules a border sab.

Ashley : . . .

Carterell : . . .

Newton : Arg. a lion ramp. sa. collared and on y^e breast a cross paty arg.

Hambridge : Chequey arg. and sab. a bend gules.

The genealogy of Rivel and de Urtiaco will be found in two papers contributed by Mr. J. Batten and myself to 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' Vols. XL., XLI. Ashleigh is in Wiltshire. The property held by Henry de Urtiaco and Sabina Rivel, grandparents of the peer, was made up of the holdings of Rivel in Curry and Langport, of de Urtiaco in Pitney, of St. Clare in Swelle, North Perrott, Stoke Trister, and Cucklington, and of Ashleigh in Ashleigh, Sutton Veny, and King's Charlton. After the death of both parents the property was divided. The bulk of it formed the Barony of de Urtiaco, and came to Henry, eldest son of Richard, who had died in his mother's lifetime. He was raised to the peerage, and died in 1322. His effigy may still be seen in the church at Curry Rivel. His eldest son, John, got into great difficulties, and was obliged to sell Curry Rivel and much else to William de Montacute, first Earl of Salisbury. He conferred the advowson of Curry Rivel on the Abbey of Bustlesham (or Bisham) in Berkshire. Long after the death of John in 1340, the descendants of his brother Richard, Matilda Langrich and Elizabeth Gunter (afterwards Andrews), sisters and heirs of Hugh de l'Orty, recovered Pitney.

Swelle and North Perrott were held by Walter, uncle of the Baron, who died in 1306. His son Henry received a single summons to Parliament in 1326. His son, or more probably grandson, left his property to his widow, with the result as stated in the text. In addition to the manor house at Swelle, near the interesting little church, there is another manor house called Langford.

A family named Hambridge, or Helmbridge, were settled at North Coker in the sixteenth century, but their arms were Sa. a chevron betw. three acorns proper with a crescent for a difference. They had the right to quarter Micheldever : Checky arg. and sa., on a bend gu. three mullets. This, with the exception of the charges, is assigned by Gerard to Hambridge ('Historic Notes on S. Somerset,' p. 172).

The river Parrett hence cometh to

¹ Barule, *i.e.* Barruly.

ALRE [AILER].

Aler we now call it, I thinke not from Aler or Alder trees because I have not seene many there ; more probable I thinke named from the river which our forefathers the Saxons called Rhe, and well with it brookes that name for whosoever seeth it in the winter time will rather deeme it a broad river or an Arme of the Sea than land.

Howsoever the scituation commends it not now, it seems in former ages to have bin of greate eminency for Assirius,¹ and other writers, tells us that the West Saxon King Alfred after his many bloody battailes fought against the Danes who had almost taken his whole kingdom from him, at last recovered such strength, as he forced his enemies to become suitors unto him for truce, which he granted them but on a dubble condition, they being brought to such an exigent gave consent to both, though both of them very hateful, and disadvantageous unto them. The first was that their King Gurmund Gormond or Guthrum (for by divers authors soe diverseley he is written) should become a Christian. The second that they should all forsake the kingdome. Necessity inforced them to accept of the conditions whereupon Gormund came to King Alfred then residcing at Edelingsey not farr off, where a little before he had built a new castle and not long after erected a Monastery as ere long you shall heare. Theis two kinges hence repaired to this Alre where Gormund was with greate pompe and solemnity baptized, and King Alfred being his godfather gave to him the name of Athelstane at which time and place as the monke of Durham² writes were baptized thirty of his chieftest nobility. Theis things happened in ye yeare of our Salvation 879.

But to come nearer home ; after the Conquest of William Duke of Normandy, Aler fell to a family sirnamed de Acton as being owners of and living at Acton in Gloucestershire. This from an heire generall of a younger branch of that house by Clivedon St. Loe Botreaux and Hungerford descended to the Earles of Huntingdon not long sithence owners of it who had at it an ancient Castlelike House highly seated in a low place for it stands on the pitch of a high round Mount being

¹ Assir, Hourden &c.² Simon Dunelm.

no larger than to receive that house the church and parsonage house.

As for the parish it lyes scattering a farr off on the sides of the neighbour hills whence in winter they are forced to come to the church in boats and in them also carry their dead corpes to buriall. The house was first built as I believe by one of the Botreauxes but that he founded the Chappell or Chauntry adjoyning to the Church there I believe not, because it was both built and endowed before it came to their possession. Aler is now owned by divers men by purchase and the Mansion house now gives habitation to Mr. Northover.

Acton : Quarterly the fesse indented arg. and asure, a mullett.

Clevedon : Arg. 3 scollop shells within a border engrailed gu. St. Lowe : Arg. a bend sab. a labell gules.

Botreaux : Arg. a griffin segreant gules armed asure.

Hungerford : Sa. 2 barrs arg., in chief three plates.

Hastings : Arg. a maunch sab.

Northover : Or 5 lozenges in cross betw. 4 crosslets asure.

Even now the situation of the place leaves much to be desired in the winter season. In its post-Doomsday history, I have not been able to find the link between Acton and Clevedon ; and the question is complicated by the fact that after Matthew de Clevedon had acquired part of the manor, a certain John de Acton continued to hold the other portion. Sir John Maclean, in his account of the Clevedon family ('Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLI. ii.), did not know the name of Matthew's wife, but a Final Concord, 12 Ed. III. No. 1, gives it as Hawisia. An heraldic slab to the memory of Reginald de Botreaux, d. 1420, is still in the chancel, as well as the effigy of a knight in chain and plate armour. As Gerard more than once hints in the Survey that the Courtneys are almost too much in evidence in the county, he may purposely have omitted among the owners the name of Sir Peter Courtney, who held Aller in right of his wife, Margaret St. Loe (born Clevedon) ('Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' VI. 139). The pedigree of Northover is entered in the 1623 Visitation. The stables on the island of Aller seem a relic of the former mansion.

From thence the river Parrett hasteth to meet Tone with which it joyneth at Antony named as it seemes from the last named River. Theis joined pass on to visitt the ruines of

ATHELNEY.

For soe now they are, but formerly showed a Castle and religious house of King Alfreds building as not long sithence I

noted. The cause of it take if you please out of an Historian¹ who lived in his time and wrote his life which that you may the better esteeme of you shall find it not only allowed of but followed by theis other writers.²

The place was by our ancestors the Saxons called Æthelingsey which signifies the Iland of Princes or Nobles for Æðeling with them was the appellation of the heire to the Crowne, which afterward they changed into Clito; though a faire opportunity be offered yet I judge it very needlesse to trace the history of King Alfred seeing its sufficiently expressed by our many writers onlie what appertaines to this place I will sett downe and that from his own familiar³ for soe he was that wrote both his life and last testament. This king saith he was soe miserable infested and afflicted by his enemies the Danes who had taken welneere all his kingdome from him that he was forced even to shrowd himselfe in this solitary Iland being seated amidst moores and gaules full of Aller beds. Here his best place of receipt was a Cowherdes house which in disguise he was glad to make use of. His host, it seemes an honest man and hospitable (Denewolf he is called, and by some sett a degree lower vizt a swineherd) was troubled with a curst shrew to his wife (the fate of many an honest man) who having gotten the better of her husband thought it noe shame to keepe all others under, whereupon one day having made a cake and laid it on the hearth to bake, the king sitting by and fitting his bow and arrows whom shee presumed should have looked to the batch, but shee returning and finding it burned flew at him crying out as the same author saith:

Heus homo
Urere quod cernis panes gyrare moraris
Cum nimium gaudes hoc manducare calentes.

Little thought that unlucky woman, says hee, she had spoken to that king Alfred who had fought soe many battailes with and gotten soe many victories of the pagan Danes his enemies but the enured to greater afflictions easily passed by this. During this abode here St. Cuthbert⁴ is said to have appeared unto him first as a beggar unto whom he gave the halfe of his provision, and the night following as a Bishop

¹ Asser.
² Asser.

³ Hournal Huntingdon Ethelward Malmesbury Polichron.
⁴ Polichron. lib. 6.

comforting the King with his future good fortune which soone he arrived at, for showing himselfe to his people they flocked soe thicke that eftsoones he gave battaile to his enemies with that fortune as he forced their king to become Christian as you have already heard and the whole nation to forsake the land.

Alfred having once more recovered his throne was not unmindful of his old host whom he sent for and sent him to the University of Oxford, there to be trained up, where having gotten lattyne and learning enough for a cowherd he presently advanced him to the Bishoprick of Winchester where wee will leave him in a farr better plight than we found him, and his wife at home chidinge by herselfe that her husband was taken from her. And moreover the same king built a monastery for Monkes at Athelney and endowed it with lands as this Charter of his following will show :

Regnante in perpetuum Dño nño Jesu Christo omnia regna hujus vite labentis regnorum que dispensatores ab initio istius seculi cum velocitate [difitien.]¹ transferunt. Ideo fugitivis et mortalibus rebus eterna gaudia promerenda sunt. Qua propter Ego Alfred divina ordinante misericordia occidentalium Sax-onum Rex pro remedio anime mee et criminum meorum absolu-tione, aliquantulam agri partem idest decem carucatus² in loco ubi dicitur Suðtun ad Insulam Clitorum que Anglie usitatu onomate Æðelingsei nuncupatur ad supplimentum monas-terialis vite monachis sub regulari exercitio Deo omnipotenti devote servientibus animo volenti largitus sum. Hancque libertatem prefato Monasterio devota mente donavi cum pratis pascuis rivulis et omnibus rebus ad ea rite pertinentibus ut ab omnibus regalium tributorum et exactione operum atque pena-lium causarum absque expeditione sola arcis et pontium struc-tura secure immunis et libera, perpetualiter permaneat. Et qui hoc augere voluerit, augeat Deus bona illius in regione viventium. Si autem aliquis quod absit superbie fastu inflatus et tyrannica potestate allectus hoc infringere et irritum facere conatus fuerit, sciat se ab omni ecclesia Christianorum anathe-matizati, Et in dei judicii coram Christo et angelis suis nissi ante emendaverit rationem redditurum esse prefato vero terre et donatio hujus agelli hiis terminis circumsepta patescit . . .³ Scripta autem est hec schedula hujus donationis anno ab

¹ deficientes.

² 'caratus' says Reymers.

³ The bounds I omit. [Cartulary No. 2.]

Incarnatione Christi DCCCLIJ indictione 4 hiis testibus consentientibus quorum nomina patescunt. Ego Alfred Rex hanc meam donationem cum signo sci. crucis corroboravi.

Ego Alfeud Epūs subacavi. Ego Eaudulfe dux adquevi. Ego Culberth dux confirmavi. Ego Wulfrice minister consensi. Ego Elfeston dux consignavi. Ego Elpheage Epūs corroboravi. Ego Mired minister constitui. Ego Mussell dux consolidavi. Ego Awulfe minister intellexi.

Thus much to show you the manner of charters in those times. The same transcript which I tooke this same out of I believe fell into the hands of Reyner¹ who hath justly taxed it of misdateing. For seeing the Abbey was founded after the overthrow of the Danes which fell in the year 879, what shall wee thinke of 852, 27 yeares before it could be? But as I believe him in this soe shall I leave him in thinking there stood before these times an ancients Monastery at Athelney dedicated to S. Neott, because its but one doctors opinion and the words of Asser² who lived with him and wrote his life shewe it soe plaine to be of this King's foundation. They are :

Nam cum de necessitate anime sue solícite cogitaret inter cetera diuturna et nocturna bona quibus assidue et maxime studebat Dño monasteria construere impetravit, unum monachorum in loco qui dicitur Athelingvage quod per maxima grounia paludisissima et intransurabili et aquis undique circumcingitur ad quod nullo modo aliquis accedere potest nisi cauticis aut etiam per unum pontem qui inter duos alias arces operosa protelatione constructus est In cujus pontis occidentali limite . . . munitissima prefati Regis imperis pulcherrima operatione consiti est."

This I think is sufficient to show him founder of this Abbey and not with Reynerus restorer, if you goe on with the same history you shall find that he constituted one John of Ældsex the first Abbott but it seemes learning and religion were soe much out of fashion amongst the Saxons in those dayes that he was forced to get Priests and Deacons out of France to store his Monastery who soone proved treacherous to their new governour for the story saies they hired two servants that were Frenchmen to kill him as he was praying before the Altar at midnight and thence to take his dead body and lay it before the door of an harlott which it seemes dwelt not farr off (a fitt

¹ Reyner tract 2, page 132.

² Asser in vita Afredi.

companion for those French monkes). If you desire to know the success, Asser will tell it you at large; I have bin too large already, and will therefore take leave of Athelney.

For history and theory concerning Athelney and Michaelborough (and so in Leland), see Hugo, 'Athelney Abbey,' 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLIII. ii.; Athelney Chartulary, S.R.S., Vol. XIV.; and Bishop Clifford's Presidential address at the Bridgewater meeting of the Som. Arch. Society in 1877, 'Proc.,' XXIII. ii. 9. This has a map showing the old course of the river Cary, which entered the Parret midway between Aller and Boroughbridge.

Whence my guide the River soon brings me to

MICHAELL'S BOROW.

Standing within the precincts of Athelney Abbey, whilst that stood here, you may see a rounde heape of earthe mounted up of a greate height in a very flatt Country whence it certainly takes the name. This seems for the most part to have bin done by mans hand, but to what end I knowe not. I dare not say it hath bin a fort as having noe warranty for it. On the topp of it now stands a chappell dedicated to S. Michael, which gave it the forename; as for the other Borow corrupted from the Saxons Beorh was used with them for a rounde heape of earth as Verstegan and of better authority Cambden are of opinion. Hence its most probable those little round hills having bin sepulchres with which many bigger hills, or as wee call them downes, are with us frequently crowned, retainc still the name of Burrowes. If I should make a quere here why all high places (I meane Churches or Chappells seated on them) were dedicated to th' archangell S. Michael, he that could or would resolve me might satisfie I confesse a meere curiosity, that it was soe. Examples are frequent enoughe; that mount at Glastonbury wee call the tower, that at Montacute of the same name, this place, and to leave many of lesser note, the Mount in Cornwall. But I will leave this and showe you from this Burroughe, Barow, or Beorghe a goodly summer prospect of a very large flatt seated with the lowest, but rich ground contayninge divers moores (for soe wee call theis flatts), distinguished some by the name of places, some of their possessors. Theis lying in common, for y^e most of them afford common to any that will enter common in them, but if they were severall

would yeild a vast revenue, which is y^e cause the takeing of them in hath bin aymed at but with little successe, and hitherto in the winter theis Moores are soe covered with water that you would rather deeme them Sea than land, and yet to verify the old proverb that after a Plenty comes a Scarcity, in summer-time where Rivers run not they are soe destitute of water as they want that which is sweet for their moste necessary uses. Let us now descend the hill not farr from which the river Cary being the fifth and last branch of this confluence hasteth to joyne itselfe with Parrett. For the head of this River wee must look eastward as farr as

CASTLE CARY.

Here shall you see a most plentiful spring rising almost under the Castle Walls for from an ancient Castle the place tooke that adjunct, as y^e name from y^e River. This Castle is longsince demolished, but where it stood was Caput Baronie or the principle seate of the Barony of Cary owned first by the Lovells one of which namely Willielmus Lupellus (so was he written as Histories¹ tell us) sideing with Maude the Empresse in y^e yeare of grace 1138 fortified this Castle against King Stephen the third of his raigne. His posterity for five generations were Barons of this place, and of Parliament, but in Edward the third's time it came to an end, for Sir James Lovell dying in the lifetime of Richard his father left one only daughter Muriell married with a goodly inheritance unto Nicholas de St. Maure, in her right owner of Castle Cary. He was sonne of Nicholas de St. Maure, a Parliament Baron in Edward the seconds time by Eva his wife daughter and coheire to Alane Lord Zouche of Ashby, whose father Nicholas de St. Maure had likewise married a coheire of Hugh Baron of Morwike in Northumberland. This Nicholas and Muriell had issue Nicholas that dyed issulesse the same yeare that his father did, and Richard Lord St. Maure who by Alla [Ela] coheire of Sir John St. Loc had Richard and John, from whom as heire generalls the Stawells of this County and Bampfilds in Devonshire deduce their descent. But Richard Lord of Castle Cary having buried his only sonne John, at his owne deathe left his wife greate of child who after brought forth a daughter named Alice heire to

¹ H. Huntingdon.

her father's estate who was married to William Lord Zouche of Harringworth whereby not only the ancient land of the Zouches reverted backe to the same family but a faire estate of St. Maure to boot, all which John Lord Zouche lost by attainder for taking part with King Richard the third against Henry the 7 (who not long after gave the towne and Castle or rather a house built by the Zouches within the verge of the Castle walls) unto Robert Willoughby Lord Brooke, a man much in his favour which he sufficiently manifested by heapeing both honours and lands upon him. Since by what conveyance I knowe not, the Earle of Hartford is become owner of it.

The more ancient Lords had a faire demesne here, and two parkes whereof the one remaines unto this daye stored with decre; the other, being a mile off at Almsford, as all the rest of demesnes, leased out. The house gives habitation unto my very worthy friend Edward Kirton Esq., whose ancestors have for many ages flourished in Essex. The situation of it is deservedly commended as hardly equalled by any in this tract. The towne hath little in it worthy commendation. They anciently endowed a markett on the Tuesdaies which being long lost was lately renued by Edward Earle of Hartford theire Lord, but its none of ye greatest, hardly of the middle size. For a conclusion take the Armes of the owners of it, that they may here remaine, for some of them have bin beaten out of the Church windowes sithence I knew the place.

Lovell: Or crusele and a lion rampt. asure.

St. Maure: Arg. 2 chevrons gu., a labell asure.

Zouch of Ashby: Gu. 10 besants 4 3. 2. and 1.

Morwike: Gu. a saltier vairy arg. and sab.

St. Loe: Arg. a bend sa., a labell gules.

Zouch of Harringworth: Gu. 10 besants, a quarter erm.

Willoughby: Quarterly; 1 and 4, sa. a cross engrailed or; 2 and 3, gu. a cross sarcell arg. Ufford and Beke sett for Willoughby.

Earl of Hertford: Gules 2 wings or.

Kirton: Arg. a chevron betw. 3 crosses-crosslet gu.

Below this towne and belonging to it lyes a large flatt of rich ground called Carymoore of late inclosed where in the yeare of grace 1629, one digged to make a ditch found a pott full of little ingotts of copper of an inche and halfe, some two inches; they

were rudely cast having on y^e back side some 5 sterts or points, some fewer one of which pieces was given me by my friend Edward Bisse Esq. That they were such monies as the more ancient Brittaines used I am easily induced to believe seeing Crasser¹ hath told us that the Brittaines in his time used for monies ringes and little plates of iron brought to a just weight after as is most probable having found this better mettle and the meanes of making it fusable, they cast it into their rude peeces, the prickes or points on the backside I thinke showing what vallue they passed for as for coynes untill they had learnt from the Romaines the way of moulding them, the Brittaines were altogether ignorant of that art, neither when they in imitation of the Romans tooke up that art, were they very perfect as the rudeness of them testifie, that of Cunobeline who ruled in Brittain under Augustus Cæsar the very same yeare Jesus Christ was borne being the first that nation ever stamped with image or inscription, to lett passe his successors is a sufficient testimony. This accident hath been the cause of thus much.

For Castle Cary and its history, see 'Historical Notes' by Prebendary G. A. Grafton, published 1895. There is a pedigree of Kirtton in Brown, Som. Wills, I. 44; and 'Som. and Dors. N. and Q.,' III. 48.

It is more than doubtful if the little ingots were intended to circulate as money. They are more likely to have been the raw material on its way to the mint.

Lett us now follow our guide the River which hence comes to

BARROW.

Now divided into North and South² which though it belonged unto the Lords of Castle Cary yet gave the surname of Barrow unto him that held it;³ from whom descended those Barrowes still remaining hereabouts, as also that family of Barrowes now knights in Hampshire. Their armes are Sa. 2 swords in saltire arg. betw. 4 flowerdeluces or within a border ermine.

Among the Wells Cathedral MSS. are some very early charters relating to South Barrow. In the episcopate of Bishop Joceline (1206-44) it was decided that the advowson belonged to the Dean and Chapter by virtue of a grant from Alured de Ponsond, Lord of South B., though it was contested by Alured his grandson and his mother Matilda.

¹ Crasser, lib. fifth, Cambden, Speed.

² Inq. 19 E. 1.

³ Cart. dat. 35 E. 3.

BABCARY.

Named also from the river is the next place the water brings us to which John de Bello campo or Beauchamp of Hach gave with his daughter unto Sir John de Erleighe Lord of North Petherton who flourished in Edward the firsts time from whom by St. Maure of Cary it descended unto the Stawells and Bampfilds, the former of which families enjoys it at this present.

Adjoyninge to it, and a member of it is

STEORTE.

A place that hath its extraordinarie foulness and dirt recompensed with asmuch fertility. It was held of the King by serjeanty to pay him yearly at Michaelmass one Crane or as latter Inquisitions have it 3 sh. It seemes y^e price of Cranes was increased as the birds in theis parts decreased. Martin de Campo Florido¹ held in King John's time and was then written de Sterte for a difference from Luke de Campoflorido who the same time lived at Wike Chamflory and was if I mistake not his brother. This Martin as the Leiger of Brewton tells me gave certaine lands unto Sir Richard de Aston knight for his service, and Sir Richard upon y^e same termes passed it unto Sir Galfride de Wraxall knt. and Julian his wife who gave it to the Priory of Brewton as the same booke and also a Fine acknowledged at Westminster the fourth of Edward the first shew. Martin had two sonnes Illarius² and Matthew. The first was father of John³ who by Emma his wife had Galfride⁴ and John⁶ who I thinke dyed without issue for with the best enquiry I could make I can find none they left neither who was owner of Steort untill Henry the sixths time⁶ when an Inquisition tells me John Gilbert dyed seised of it whose posterity enjoyed it till of late times.

This manor was held, temp. Doomsday, by two porters of Montacute under the Earl of Moretain. In the list of serjeanties in 'Liber Ruber, 1210-2' (Rolls edit. ii. 547), 'Henry son of Richard Robbe holds Sterte and renders one crane to the King.' The Bruton chartulary gives no dates for the

¹ Regist. de Brewton.

⁴ Ibid. 22 E. 3.

² Esc. 4 E. 1.

³ Ibid. 28 E. 3.

⁵ Ibid. 19 E. 3.

⁶ Inq. 34 II. 6.

various transfers of Sterte; but Martin de Champflour was probably owner about the date suggested. For another branch of this family, see the Muchelney chartulary. John de Chaumflour, father of Geoffrey, held part of Sterte in 1348, and seems to have tried to obtain the whole by forcibly disseising Robert the Prior of Brewton of his share. In the lawsuit that followed, John pleaded that he ought not to be obliged to answer because he had been attached by the name of Chaumflour instead of Champflour! The recognitors answered that he was rightly named; and he lost his case (Brut. Chart. S.R.S., VIII. p. 53).

Below this the River gives name to

LITES CARY.

The cheife seate for a great many ages of the ancient family of Lites who in a direct line draw their descent from William le Lite a serjeant at law that flourished in King Edward the firsts time as by an exact and well prooved pedigree drawne out of evidences and records by my very worthy friend Thomas Lite Esquire now owner of the place, appears, whose genius hath bin much addicted that way, as by the Kings descent, the fruite of many yeares labour, by him sett forth is sufficiently shewen, but besides his love to my own studie, I must acknowledge his greate humanitie towards mee in helping mee with many excellent peices of evidence and other antiquities which have bin very useful unto mee neither may I forget to mention his father Henry Lite Esquire whose elaborate Herball, the most exact that those times afforded will as a lasting monument conserve his name of which a word or two if you please because sometimes it hath bin an argument betweene the nowe owner of the place and myselfe: That it is a locall name I can hardly believe it. I confesse the gentleman showed two evidences¹ either I thinke older than the Sergeants time, the one mentioning dominus Hugo de Lite, the other William de Lite. For answer to this I have only this to say that the scribes in those times were none of the best clarkes; if they had they would have made some conscience of knocking poore Priscian's pate soe familiarly as in most ancient evidence they doe, and in the former picce having mentioned many witnesses with addition of de, he believed noe doubt he should have done much prejudice unto the gent if he had not written him as he had the others. I am sure that notwithstanding those deeds the serjeant was

¹ theis are without date.

written le Lit.¹ Another William le Lite a third as Edward the seconds Surveye shewes William le Lite, that is the title taken certainly first from the stature of some of their ancestors; for to thinke Lite were the name of a place were in my opinion a strange conceipt or to believe (because le is prefixed intimating the) it should be an official name, as le Dispensator, le Latimer, le Valyasor, &c., it were harder to find the office than to find that le was sett before two other sorts of name besides official, as to those which from their complexions le Blount, le Rowse, le Brett &c., or from the dimension of their bodies as le Lite (which we have in hand) le Longe, le Grosse, le Petite, names as ancient and honourable as any other, but I will leave this and take leave of my neighbour leaving as I have done to others for a memoriall of his family his Armes which with all the matches I have scene fairly sett in y^e windowes of his auncent house at Cary.

Lite: Gules a cheveron betw. 3 swannes arg.

The family and their dwelling have been elucidated by Sir C. H. Maxwell Lyte, K.C.B., Deputy Keeper of the Records Office, in 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XXXVIII. ii. The 'de' is no doubt a clerical error for 'le.'

Not farr from this lies Tokers Cary as part of which being sold to Robert le Fitzpaine was from him called Cary Fitzpaine. Of theis I have nothing to say but the next

CARY

The river comes unto affords us some observations. It hath the addition of

KINGSDOWNE,

For that it is most probable it was anciently a part of the West Saxons kings demeanes belonging to their Castle of Somerton. The parish is seated on the rising of a hill whence the church (which is faire) is scene farr off, but neerer the river stood this Cary which gave both sirname and habitation to an ancient and noble family which still flourish in Cockington and Clovelly in Devon, and from whom the Earle of Dover formerly Lord Hunsdon is lineally descended, neither shall I thinke it much beside my purpose briefly to catalogue as many of them

¹ cart. in cust. Tho. Lite arg. dat. 31 E. 1.

as lived here, and that from authentically records, but especially out of such ancient evidences as the last named Mr. Lite of his curtesie imparted to mee by doing I shall doe theis Gentlemen a dubble curtesie, first to show them their true ancestors whence they are issued next how to amend that false pedigree which I thinke nowe remains amongst them as I have seene it in the Visitation of Devon, I meane the last but one.

The first of theis that I have found was Garmund or Gormund de Kari¹ who by that name seemes to shewe a Danishe descent, it being proper only to that Nation. He was father of Henry the sonne of Gormund de Kari, soe written in an evidence without date, neverthesse both hand and witnesses persuade me to attribute it to King John's time. From him issued Adam de Cary who flourished in the beginning of King Edward the firsts time; father of John de Cary, he of a second John,² who had a third John³ de Cary, and Thomas⁴ heire unto his nephew William who died issulesse. Thomas was father of Thomas de Cary, whose issue soone failed, and Sir John de Cary a Judge in King Richard the seconds time. He was one of those who in the eleventh of the same Kinges reign, were arrested as they sat in Judgement at Westminster, sent to the Tower of London and soone after attainted by Parliament for such matters as the Nobilitie, the causers of that Parliament objected against him and his associates. This attainder how just soever lost him his whole estate, and had ruined the family had not an estate from his wite Margaret widow unto Sir John de Erley daughter of Sir Guy de Brian then lord of Kingsdowne fallen unto his sonne Robert Cary for when as the issue of Sir Guy de Brian y^e younger failed his three sisters children divided his inheritance as also the inheritance of Ann their mother daughter and heire of William de Holwell owner of Holwell in Devon which with other lands came unto Robert Cary. I have seene divers petitions which this man tendered to the Parliament holden in y^e beginning of Henry the fourths time for recovering his inheritance, but to little purpose. for though he pleaded a former deede of entaile yet he recovered nothing saving Cockington in Devon whereat I have noted already his posterity flourish to this day in right good esteeme.

But before I leave this place I must lett you knowe that at

1. Garmund de Kari 2. John de Cary 3. John de Cary 4. Thomas de Cary

this Kingsdowne lived heretofore an ancient family of knights surnamed de Guiuiz and de Guuits after de Gouis of which Sir Walter de Guiuiz lived here in H. 2. time; after him Sir Richard de Guiuiz his sonne, Robert his grandchild,¹ and William his greate grandchild succeeded him who being a man of a faire estate much increased it by joining in marriage with Beatrix daughter of Thomas de Lincolnia a greate Baron who in the Barons warres was taken by King John, sister and coheire unto Alured de Lincolnia² who in her right enjoying greate revenues in Dorsett removed thither where you may find more of them, leaving Kingsdowne unto Sir Brian de Gouiz his younger sonne whose sonne Brian³ sonne and heire unto Sir Brian de Gouiz knt., soe he writt himselfe in a deede dated the thirteenth of Edward the third by which he granted certaine lands in Kingsdowne adjoyninge to the lands of Sir John de Govitz knight; which John was surely sonne of Robert de Govitz another younger sonne of William and Beatrix of whom you may see more in Dorsett. As for Brian he had a third Brian Goviz a knight also in whom this family came to an end for ought I could ever learne, and soe shall my discourse, seeing that Kingsdowne hath not for many ages bin the seate of any gent, and therefore to particularize the severall Lords of it were a trouble to you and myselfe.

Cary: Arg. on a bend sa. 3 roses or.

Brian: Or 3 piles in point asure.

Holwell: Gu. a fesse betw. 3 cressants arg.

Goviz: Arg. 3 lions heads erased gules collared arg.

Lincoln: Vary on a chefe or 4 fussels gules.

Brian de Goviz: Vary a bend of fussels gules, which was taken from his mother's armes. I have seene it in an ancient seale, and a Roll of Armes⁴ of H. 3. time, and then I found another Goviz who gave Quarterly gules and vary a bendlet arg.

I have never come across any record or reference in which this place has the additional name of Cary. Although it gave name to a family, they do not appear to have ever been lords paramount. At the same time, John le Cary paid five shillings in the Exchequer Lay Subsidy of 1327, when John and Brian de Gouitz together only paid six shillings. This was probably the third John mentioned in the text.

¹ Inq. 2 H. 3.

² Esc. 48 H. 3.

³ cart. in cust. Tho. Lite arg.

⁴ In cust. Rich. St. George militis Clarencieux.

In the chancel of Kingsdon Church is a stone effigy of a man in armour, perhaps the only existing relic of the great family of Gouiz in Somerset ; with the exception of the affix in Goose-Bradon, for to such 'in ludibundo rusticorum vocabulo' has the name gradually sunk.

I have bin soe earnest in following this river that I had almost overpassed Carlton seated on the north side of it. The name I can by no meanes thinke to be corrupted from Cariton, seeing the situation in a place of husbandry plainly shoves it took name from Carle, the common appellation of husbandmen with our ancestors, whence our word of reproach Churle, neither was it then a shame to owne that name for Doomsday Booke will in many places shoue you the Kinges servants written Huscarles that is Household servants. Theis being two are from y^e situation called East and West Charlton, but more anciently

CHARLTON MACKARELL, and
CHARLTON ADAM.

The first of them why soe called I assure you I cannot tell yet hath it continued that name ever since Edward the first's time.¹ It had long sithence three Lords Robert le Fitzpaine whose posterity brought that moyetie or rather Mannor to the Earles of Northumberland ; William de Horsey another had a Mansion house here, called Horseys court² and his successor Rafe de Horsey built and endowed a Chantry³ in the Parish church of Charlton. But I have seene a deede in the custody of Sir George Horsey that tells me the first named William de Horsey bought this of one William Bellett which bears date the 24 of King Henry son of King John to which is affixed a faire seale of Armes being three escollopp shells with his name in the circumference. But this mannor was in our grandfathers daies parted between the heires of Sir John Horsey married to Moone and Arnold, who still enjoy it.

The third owner of Charlton was sirnamed de Perham from a place of that name if not in yet neere neighbour unto Charlton, for I remember I have seene a deed of Auda de Stanton⁴ daughter of Sir William de Staunton by which were granted some tene-ments at Charlton Mackarell dated at Parham the one and

¹ Inq. 9 E. 1.

² Inq. de quod ad damn. 16 E. 3.

³ ex cart. Geo. Horsey milit.

⁴ cart. in cust. Geo. Horsey mil.

thirtieth of King Edward the sonne of King Henry, to which were witnesses William de Reyney, John de Cary William le Lit, William Heese, &c., all neighbours to this place. Of theis Thomas de Parham flourished in Hen. 3. time,¹ John his sonne in Edw. y^e seconds time,² and John the last of this house in Edward the third's time.³ As for those Parhams not long sithence in theis parts, I thinke they were noe way allied unto them.

The other called Charlton Adam sometimes Fitzadam,⁴ for from an owner of that Christian name his successors were for a while termed Fitzadam but soone after changed successively their fathers Christian name into a sirname prefixing Fitz-. Of theis John Fitzhamon gave y^e church of Charlton unto the Priory of Brewton which was confirmed by Robert Bishopp of Bathe that lived in King Stephen's time, as also by William Fitzjohn his eldest sonne who dying issulesse Richard Fitzjohn his brother succeeded him who left Henry Fitzrichard his eldest sonne, John Fitzrichard his second sonne which John had Hamo Fitzrichard called many times from his dwellinge 'de Blackford'⁵ (a place not farr off); from whom the family of Fitzrichard owners of Pentriche in Dorsett untill Henry the sixths time issued. I have seene a deede⁶ of this Hamon dated y^e fiftieth of Edward the third sealed with a seale of Armes which showed plainly Six barrulets within a border engrailed, the colours I have found to be Gules 6 barrs or, a border engrailed sa. But to returne to Henry Fitzrichard, he had his dwelling here, and founded a chantry and Freechapell within his house, but not without leave of y^e Priour of Bruton as you may see in his deed following:⁷

'Notum sit omnibus Xti fidelibus ad quod presens scriptum pervenerit Quod Richardus prior de Bruton et ejusdem loci Covent. ad honorem et exaltationem Nominis Domini Nostri Jesu Christi et augmentum cultus Ipsius, concesserunt nobili viro domino Henrico filio Richardi quod ipse et heredes sui habeant imperpetuum liberam capellam suam in curia sua de Charlton que est infra limites Ecclesie de Charlton Adæ, que est dictorum Prioris et Conventus de Brewton, Ita quidem quod ipse et heredes sui dictam capellam sumptibus suis per omnia

¹ cart. dat. 17 H. 3.² Noia. villar. 9 E. 2.³ Inq. 5 E. 3.⁴ Regist. Bruton.⁵ Inq. 9 E. 2.⁶ In cust. Tho. Hussey Arg.⁷ Regist. Bruton.

manutenebunt: et per omnia et in omnia onera sustineant et eadem disertim faciant quandocunque voluerint et per quocunque idoneos capellanos, salvo jure episcopali &c.'

The rest I will save labour to exemplifie it tending more to the Prior's profit whoe would be sure to be noe loser by y^e bargaine, than anything else, neither mist they their ayme, for not long after they became lords of the Mannor by the giift of William Fitzadam a younger branch of this family unto whom it fell by the death of Henry Fitzrichard, without issue male. But if you desire to know what posterity he left this following Inquisition taken before Robert Passelowe an especiall favourite of King Henry 3. and employed about such offices will show.

Henricus filius Richardi tenuit Weston¹ &c. et fuit de Baronia post decessum dicti Henrici dict' terr' descendebat quatuor militibus qui fuerunt heredes dicti Henrici, scilicet Thome de Breton, Mattheo Wake, Waltero de Esleighe et Willielmo filio Walteri et sic divisa fuit in quatuor partes unde Willielmus filius Walteri vendidit partem suam domino Thome de Breton. Dom. Tho. de Breton vendidit partem suam unacum parte illa domino Galfrido de Mandeville qui habet et tenet et facit inde servitium domino Regi quantum pertinet. Mattheus Wake dedit partem suam Philippo Lucano in maritagium cum filia sua. Walterus de Esleigh dedit partem suam domino Galfrido de Marisco. Dominus Galfridus partem illam dedit Emerico de Gardino cum nepte sua; et isti duo tenent istam medietatem istius ville et valet illa villa xv li.

I presume it may be worth the noting that the consular highway made by the Romans called the Fosse way passed by this Charlton to Ivelchester, as well to continue the trace of it being almost lost as to confute those who are of opinion that the fosse went from Cirencester to Gloucester when in truth it ran thence unto Bath between which two townes the tract of it is very easily to be discerned at this present, as soe by this Charlton unto Ivelchester. For prooffe the Leiger of Brewton, in a certaine boulder of land in Charlton which Robert Francis of Charlton gave unto that Priory expreslie saies:

Et i acram que se extendit super viam que vocat Foss.

But of Charlton enough if not too much. As for the Armes I shall save a labour seeing Fitzpaine and Horseys are so often

¹ This was Kinweston a neighbour place.

mentioned; Fitzrichard and Belletts seale already, and that Parhams I knowe not.

Charlton Makarel took its second name from that family, the last of whom, Herbert M., died without heirs shortly before the Assize of 1242-3 (S.R.S., XI. 904). He held land in the manor of Somerton by descent from Osa, laundress to the Empress Matilda. In Kirby's Quest it is held by Robert Fitzpayn. At the same date, John Horsy (not Dorsy as in the printed copy) held another estate in the same vill. In a paper on this family by Mr. J. Batten, 'Som. Arch. Proc.,' XLIII. ii., the descent of the property is traced from the date of the sale by Bellet down to 1713, when James Samson reunited the moieties of Arnold and Mohun.

At the same date, 1234, John Perham held three parts of a knight's fee in Charlton of John de Mandeville. His home was at Wyke Perham near Langport. Unless Perham is a variation of Pedreham near Bridgewater, its site is unknown to me.

For Charlton Adam and its early possessors, see 'Historical Notes on South Somerset,' pp. 124, 125, and the Bruton Chartulary. Weston is not Kingweston, which belonged to Bermondsey Abbey, but Buckhorn Weston near Gillingham.

Therefore we will return to our guide the River which having left Kingsdowne hasteth his course to

SOMERTON.

Seated on a rockie hill over it which affords plentie of good stone for building and a large prospect over the flatts or moores as wee call them, streching farr almost on all sides of it. Theis at winter present but a watery spectacle, being then for the most part drowned yet yeilds it a greate commoditie to the fowlers who furnish not only this towne but many other places with such traffique, and that in greate plentie.

When it tooke the name I cannot shoue but that it gave name to the whole county is most certaine written anciently from it Somertonensis Comitatus, and Somertonshire which shoues that it is auncient, and was eminent, else I believe it had not bin honoured with a house of the West-Saxon kings. Yet is there noe mention at all of it in Historie untill the yeare of Grace 734 when saies Ethelward:¹

'Rex Ethelbald in potestatem cepit villam regiam que Summertun nuncupatur.'

And Policronicon,² Anno 734, Ethelbald King of Mercia besieged Somerton, won it, and held it, but paid dear for it at

¹ Ethelward, lib. 2.

² Policron, Huntingdon, Camden.

last, for Cuthred King of the West Saxons in the year of grace 758 slew him in a pitchd feild at Secondon three miles from Tamworth, and with him other writers agree. It seems at this time it was the Kings seate and fortified. The inhabitants will persuade you that the Castle stood a mile south from the now Towne, but there is soe little signe of it anywhere that I thinke its a difficult matter to say where it stood, only I believe that Kingsdowne, Kingsmoore, and Kingsborough all neare at hand tooke the name, for that anciently they belonged unto the Kings house here.

In William the firsts daies¹ Somerton was of the auncient demesnes of the Crowne and injoyed the priviledge of free-warren the keeping of which belonged to the Lords of Newton Forester which with other lands they held of the King by service² to keep all the Kings forests in this County and the warren of Somerton which with the Burrough and Mannor were for some succeeding ages allotted for part of the dower of the Queenes of this land. After it was granted to the Kings nearest allies as to John Earle of Kent³ from whom by heires generall it descended to Thomas Holland Earle of Kent to Thomas Montacute Earle of Sarum, to Richard Neville Earle of Sarum and Marquisse Montacute, to George Duke of Clarence, to Sir Richard Poole, to Francis Hastings Earle of Huntingdon whose nephew Sir George Hastings in our fathers daies alienated it unto Sir Edward Hext a nere neighbour unto it. I am not ignorant that divers of theis aforenamed were attainted yet upon restoration Somerton descended as I have said yet have seene by relation this towne in the greatest glory. You heard of the owners of it even untill our own times. The decaie followed which was not soc suddaine but that y^e generall Assizes of the whole County were kept at it untill King Edward the thirds time. Since it is fallne soc to decay that were it not for the Munday marketts stored with cattle, and from Palm Sunday untill the midst of June the weeklie faires unto which many resort from farr to buy such ware, the people hereabouts being much given to feeding and grasing of Cattle it were of very little note. The Towne is now governed by two Constables.

At the east end of it underneath the hill (but neare my guide the River) lies

¹ Lib. Doomsday.

² Inq. 37 H. 3.

³ Esc. 20 E. 3.

LOWER SOMERTON.

Called also East Somerton but more ancientlie Somerton Erle as being y^e possession and seate of an ancient and noble family of Knights sirnamed de Erleya and Early from a place soe called. Theis enjoyed it untill Edward the thirds time when Sir John de Erleigh¹ having buried his onlie sonne without issue male passed it away, and having sithence passed through many mens hands now shoves a new house of the now owner of it Mr. Still second sonne to John Still not long sithence Bishopp of Bath and Wells. This Mannor of Sommerton Erly was held. . . .

¹ Inq. de quo ad damn. 45 E. 3.

[CETERA DESUNT.]

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